FBIS DAILY REPORT

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AREA LEGISLATORS HOLD MEETING IN URUGUAY

PY232242 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1108 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 23 Mar (NA) -- Argentine, Brazilian, and Uruguayan legislators today began to analyze the consequences of the foreign debt in the region, the human rights situation, and the possibility of economic and scientific integration during a session of the "Meeting of Legislators for the Consolidation of Democracy." The session was opened yesterday, 22 March, by Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, who emphasized that "the consolidation of democracy is a priority task" in the southern cone, and that "in Latin America where revolution has been talked about so much for years, democracy is still the most revolutionary situation."

Opposition leaders from Paraguay and members of the Chilean Congress at the time of the overthrow of the Popular Unity government in September 1973 have been invited to this meeting of legislators, which will end 24 March. The participants from Argentina are: Peronist Deputies Nestor Perl, Oscar Fappiano, and Alberto Melon; Radical Civic Union Deputies Adolfo Stubrin, Ricardo Cornaglia, and Jose Bielicki; Intransigent Party Deputy Miguel Monserrat; from Uruguay, they are: Colorado Deputy Roberto Asiai, Blanco Deputy Juan Raul Ferreira, and Broad Front Deputy Hugo Batlle; and from Brazil there is only one deputy due to the illness of President-elect Tancredo Neves.

In the session's opening speech, Uruguayan President Sanguinetti said that "consolidating democracy is not just the result of a broad policy nor is it the undertaking of enlightened elites, but it is a task of diffusing collective values throughout society; otherwise, democracy will not be consolidated." He deplored that "in the present-day world ideas do not advance as fast as technological concepts." In this regard, he noted "the difference between a society which speaks of 'star wars' as the maximum expression of the capability to destroy, a society which also reflects the true image of man, and a society in which people are still struggling for their freedom."

The agenda of the meeting includes, among other topics, the analysis of a "critical study of the political and economic situation in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay, and its relation to Latin America," and the "preparation of guidelines to advance Latin American integration." The agenda is being discussed in nine committees presided over by representatives of the Uruguayan political parties. These committees will present their conclusions to the closing plenum to be presided over by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique V. Iglesias on 24 March.

Issue Declaration

PY251054 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2033 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 24 Mar (DYN) -- Argentine, Uruguayan, and Brazilian legislators today upheld democracy as the "reasonable and courageous" answer that the Latin American people have given to the serious crisis they are confronting as the legacy of successive military governments. The legislators also upheld the right to form a group to solve the region's foreign debt problem. They also rejected the actions of the IMF, which "has sought to impose, in its capacity as the agent of the multinational financial system, recessive economic policies, indefinitely delaying the necessary reactivation of the region."

The legislators established their position in a document entitled the "Declaration of Montevideo," which summarizes the agreements reached by the political leaders during the three sessions of the "meeting of legislators for the strengthening of democracy in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay," which began here on 22 March.

The declaration reaffirms the idea that Latin American integration and support for democracies are "the only instruments that can break the chains of dependence which imperialism has secured with its most modern tool: the foreign debt."

The declaration also brands as "unjustified or illegitimate" the debts owed by the Latin American countries, pointing out that the debts must be renegotiated taking into account the principle of coresponsibility of debtors and creditors. The legislators also upheld the right of debtors to "form a group to face the existing association of creditor countries." The Declaration of Montevideo also voices the strongest support for the Contadora Group's efforts, and upholds the principles of peaceful settlement of controversies and of nonintervention in the internal affairs of each nation.

The meeting of lesislators ended with a speech by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, who praised the role played by democracy "as a suitable instrument for the liberation" of Latin America and pledged his government's support for regional integration.

The legislators will meet again on 22 August in Sao Paulo, Brazil, where they will hold the second meeting of legislators for the strengthening of democracy in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay.

Condemn Paraguayan Chilean Regimes

PY251341 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0235 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 24 Mar (EFE) -- The meeting of legislators to strengthen democracy in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay ended today in Montevideo with an extensive declaration condemning the dictorial regimes of Chile and Paraguay. The meeting, which began on 23 March, was closed by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias.

In the declaration the legislators demand the enforcement of the state of law in Paraguay, and the immediate return to that country of opposition political leaders Domingo Laino, Luis Resch, Augusto Roa Bastos, and other exiles. The legislators also demand that Antonio Maidana [secretary general of the Paraguayan Communist Party] and other missing persons in Paraguay reappear alive.

The 7-point declaration also demands the full enforcement of freedom of the press, the immediate reopening of the daily ABC COLOR, closed by the regime of President Alfredo Stroessner, and an end to the harassment on Radio Nanduti. The Argentine, Brazilian, and Uruguayan legislators ask for the release of Paraguayan political prisoners Heriberto Alegre and peasant leaders Mariano Nunez and Amancio Caballero. They also demand from the Stroessner regime a democratic opening and a broad unrestricted amnesty.

In regard to Chile, the legislators decided to create a commission to carry out the necessary actions for the return of democracy and traditional liberties in Chile.

In their second point, the legislators ask their governments to coordinate joint activities so that democracy can prevail in all nations of the Americas.

The meeting were long and at some moments very tense, due especially to the attitude of some Argentine legislators of the Justicialist Party, who opposed some of the terms condemning the Stroessner regime.

Bernardo Salduna and Guillermo Sarquis, national deputies of the Radical Civic Union of President Alfonsin and members of the Argentine delegation to the meeting, in a statement regretted the attitude of some Justicialist (Peronists) deputies who left the meeting during speeches by representatives of some Paraguayan opposition political leaders. The declaration of the Radical deputies said that this attitude of complicity with the Paraguayan autocratic regime, in addition to being an insult to the Paraguayan opposition leaders, does not represent the feeling of the Argentine people or the majority of the Justicialists.

The meeting of legislators concluded with a declaration reaffirming Argentine sovereign rights over the Malvinas Islands and warning about the dangers of the arms race for the continent, including nuclear arms, a development Great Britain is carrying out in the South Atlantic.

The legislators decided to meet again from 22 to 25 August 1985 in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

SODECA REPUDIATES SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

FL260120 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2335 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Excerpt] San Jose, 25 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The Central American Social Democratic group (Sodeca) today expressed its repudiation of the Socialist International for supporting the Sandinist government and the Salvadoran guerrillas. Sodeca ended here its second meeting since it was formed in September 1983. Attending the meeting were the full members: Democratic Action of El Salvador and the Social Democratic Parties of Panama and Nicaragua.

According to the communique from the meeting, the Socialist International wrongly supports political systems whose ideologies are very different and even opposite from social democrat principles, exemplified by the Salvadoran guerrilla and Nicaraguan Government's ideologies which are dominated by Marxist-Leninism.

Sodeca said that it was necessary for all Central American social democrats to integrate to avoid persons, organizations, or foreign governments assuming to represent the interests of the area. In order to accomplish this, invitations have been sent to all social democrat parties to join Sodeca. The Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, lead by anti-Sandinist Alfonso Robelo, attended the meeting as an observer.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS MEETING OPENS IN ARGENTINA

PY251601 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 Mar 85 p 13

[Text] (DYN) -- The second meeting of the permanent technical commission on radio communications of the Inter-American Telecommunications Conference (CITEL) will meet here between tomorrow and Friday in an effort to coordinate interests towards adopting joint positions on the use of geostationary satellite orbits and planning the use of space services. Geostationary satellites are those whose orbits coincide with the earth's rotation, remaining constantly perpendicular to a given point on the surface of the planet.

Representatives from 14 countries throughout the hemisphere and observers from several continental and international organizations will take part in the five-day talks aimed at determining common denominators for CITEL to present at the World Conference on Radio Communications Administration (CAMR-85) next August.

NEW NATIONAL DEFENSE DOCTRINE UNDER STUDY

PY251511 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1542 GMT 24 Mar 85

[By Hernando Kleimans]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Mar (EFE) -- The Argentine Government, after the recent dismembering of the military leadership, has began what is considered the final offensive against the sources of military power. According to the Defense Ministry, the objective is to create a new national defense doctrine and to replace the criterion for military training.

According to a draft law of the National Defense Ministry which President Raul Alfonsin is going to submit to Congress, and a text of which was made available to EFE, military officers are to be removed from the areas of planning and decision making because of alleged or real conflicts. The draft law says: The Armed Forces are the military instruments for national defense and will be subjected to a regime of internal discipline, and they will adjust their procedures to national and international law applicable in armed conflicts.

According to the draft law, the National Defense Cabinet, made up of the president and his ministers, will have the responsibility for setting strategy and planning hypothetical conflicts, thus excluding military officers. The chief of the staff of each service and the chief of the joint staff will be under the Defense Ministry in a military committee which will determine military tactics and operations.

The most important change is undoubtedly the ideological concept of national defense. According to the draft law, this concept involves all the necessary plans and actions to prevent or overcome all kinds of conflicts provoked by foreign aggression. The official military policy of the defense concept of national security implemented by the military dictatorship to carry out repression under the pretext of ideological aggression and internal war is therefore abolished.

This new concept of the Alfonsin administration will be taught in all military schools and colleges when a commission of the Defense Ministry in charge of changing study plans and training begins to operate. When former diplomat Ruben Blanco assumes the position of director of the National Defense School, it will mean the official beginning of the new concept.

Spokesman for the Defense Ministry have pointed out to EFE that the goal is to create within the National Defense School groups of thought which will contribute to the development of an effective doctrine for the full enforcement of ideological pluralism.

The same sources admitted that this reorganization has irritated the sensibility of the military officers because they consider these schools and colleges as their temples. However, if the constitutional government hopes to consolidate the democratic system, it is necessary that the military officers become aware that democracy is the path which the country must follow.

The sources emphasized that these profound changes do not mean a confrontation between the civilian and the military, or that the government has begun a campaign of insults or persecution against the military. However, for a sector which has enjoyed power almost uninterruptedly for half a century any proposal even superficially touching the exercise of that power will appear as subversive. Nevertheless, the government seems to be willing to carry out the ideological changes proposed in its electoral platform, a change which was quietly implemented in the high command.

SENATORS TO URGE UK MP'S TO RESUME DIALOGUE

PY252015 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1215 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 24 Mar (NA) -- Argentine senators will reiterate to British members of Parliament the need for the United Kingdom to comply "with the UN recommendations" to resume the dialogue over the future of the Malvinas Islands, including the sovereignty issue, during an academic event that will take place in the FRG next week with the participation of congressmen from the two countries.

Senators Adolfo Gass, president of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Fernando de la Rua, who yesterday left for Europe, will express to the British MP's their concern over "the imminent conclusion of the construction of the Malvinas airport," the "military buildup," and the "exhaustion of fishery resources." Senators Gass and De la Rua reported on these matters before parting for Bonn to participate in an academic event that will analyze the relations between the EEC and Latin America.

The Argentine senators were invited by the Foreign Relations Committee of the FRG and a corresponding British committee had also invited them to London, but Senator Gass said he did not accept the latter invitation because "the conditions for the talks were not established."

At the airport Senator Gass said there will be British parliamentarians at the meeting in Bonn, and that "like us, they will not be representing their country officially, therefore we will undoubtedly talk about the Malvinas issue because both parties are interested." Gass said that "the British MP's, mainly those of the Labor Party, are concerned over this issue because they know that it will have to be resolved some day, and also the United Kingdom has to comply with UN resolutions."

When asked about the framework of the meetings, Gass replied that "we are still struggling against the intransigence and arrogance of the British prime minister," but he added that "these conversations help to seek new possibilities."

167 NOTABLES CALL FOR DEFENSE OF NICARAGUA

PY222235 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1122 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Mar (NA) -- A group of prominent Argentine cultural and political notables have signed an "Appeal To Defend Nicaragua, the Right to Self-Determination, and Peace in Central America." The group decided "to lend its most vigorous support" to the signing of a document demanding that the U.S. Government "withdraw its troops and fleet from the region," because "they could be used for an invasion." The document also demands that "the attacks and aggressions against Nicaragua be halted," and voices support for the Contadora peace efforts and for "the defense of self-determination and democracy."

The group also decided to organize a "conference in defense of Nicaragua and for peace in Central America" in Buenos Aires in May, and to get in touch with similar Latin American, European, and "particularly" U.S. movements. In the document, the group maintains that the decision has been taken "in the face of the intensified direct aggression against Nicaragua, the performance of joint maneuvers by U.S. and regional government forces, and the persistent U.S. financial support of the contras."

The document states that "the U.S. rejection of all the peace initiatives proposed by the Contadora Group, and the U.S. refusal to recognize the jurisdiction of international organizations, such as the International Court of Justice at The Hague, have challenged the most elementary principles that govern international coexistence and world peace." The document also states that "peace will return to Central America only if the principle of self-determination is scrupulously and unconditionally respected" and that "to defend this principle means to defend Nicaragua, a country that is under attack and that is exposed to the risk of an invasion." Therefore, "it is necessary to mobilize the public."

Those signing the appeal consider that "the preparations and the permanent aggressions against Nicaragua have produced alarm" and that "should an invasion take place, Central America and world peace would be seriously jeopardized."

The group, which decided to invite "all Argentine citizens" to sign the "draft resolution," is made up of federal senators and deputies, political, labor, and human rights organizations' leaders, journalists, writers and artists.

The original document was signed by 167 persons. Among those who signed it are: Hebe de Bonafini, president of the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo; writer David Vinas; physicist Federico Westerkamp; Senator Vicente Leonidas Saadi; and Deputies Marcelo Arabolaza and Miguel Montserrat. Those who signed the document believe that "Latin American unity demands that each one of us display a watchful and active attitude in defense of the sacred values of peace, self-determination, and democracy."

POLITICIANS ADVOCATING RECOGNITION OF PLO

PY251641 Buenos Aires AMBITO FINANCIERO in Spanish 20 Mar 85 p 6

[Text] A congressional adviser linked to Arab issues, among which there are some bills proposed by the Justicialist bloc, yesterday said that "President Alfonsin has assured Arab diplomats that PLO will have a representation in the country before the end of the year."

It also has been reported that the Chamber of Deputies will try to discuss a project of Peronist Deputy Antonio Paleari, by which the government is requested to declare the Israeli ambassador to Argentina persona non grata.

As yet there has been little official comment about recognizing the PLO.

FRENCH MAGISTRATE ISSUES WARRANT FOR ASTIZ' ARREST

PY221957 Paris AFP in Spanish 1718 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Paris, 22 Mar (AFP) -- It has been officially reported that French magistrate Claudine Lechanu-Forkel, of the Parisian prosecutor's office, today issued an international arrest warrant for Argentine Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz. According to French judicial sources, the international arrest warrant will reportedly lead to the arrest of the officer, who is accused of participating in several human rights violation cases under the military government in Argentina.

The French magistrate made this decision at the request of the lawyers of the families of the two French nuns, Alice Domon and Leonie Duquet. Astiz reportedly participated in the kidnapping and disappearance of these nuns in December 1977.

According to one of the lawyers, Jacques Miguel, should the officer try to leave Argentina, an extradition request will immediately be sent to the country where he sought refuge, and Interpol will reportedly take immediate action in the matter.

FORMER SECOND ARMY COMMANDER TO BE RETIRED

PY242000 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 Mar 85 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- Former Second Army Commander General Victor Pino, who was not been given any post, will be retired "upon orders from the constitutional authorities and by reason of a better organization," it was reported yesterday by a highly-placed Defence Ministry source. The official also stated that Colonel Vidal would be promoted to general, and would be named military attache to the United States and therefore the Argentine representative before the Interamerican Defence Council.

The source empatically denied there was any truth in the press report that the Defence Ministry had withheld information from President Raul Alfonsin on the theft of important documents on military repression, which took place in the city of Rosario last October while Pino was commander of the II Corps. The documents, stolen from the Rosario courts, and which has been gathered by the Commission on the Disappearance of Persons [Conadep], allegedly contained invaluable information on the structure of the repressive groups, especially involving the Santa Fe and Cordoba provincial police during the first years of the military government. After the robbery, which has never been cleared up, the II Corps published an unusual statement in which it denied any responsibility.

The source said Pino's involvement in that case had no connection with the request for his retirement, and that it was simply a tradition within the Army that if a general was not given a post, he will immediately apply for his retirement.

CGT APPROVES ECONOMIC PROPOSAL, RULES OUT STRIKE

PY231657 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Mar 85 p 9

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- The Executive Board of the General Confederation of Labour (CGT) gave its approval last night to a proposed socio-economic programme and rejected reports of a possible general strike to back labour demands. The final version of the six-point programme -- delayed over rifts regarding the role of the government in the recovery plan -- is expected to get the board's approval next Friday, but must then receive the approval of a plenary of secretaries-general and regional delegates scheduled for early April.

The board said it now hoped to "enrich the proposal with the contributions of labour confederation, political parties, and other important sectors of society," such as the church, and announced it would organize a multi-sectorial rally to present the proposal to the government.

Over 80 judges backed the Supreme Court magistrates' call for the urgent passage of the bill governing their salaries (already passed by the Lower House), a statement read, otherwise a considerable number of judges would be forced into resignation.

Yesterday's 24-hour doctors' strike was almost total, although Neuquen hospitals closed down for two hours only and the Unified Mercantile Workers Front (FUSM) said it would call on its rank-and-file to back demands for fair wages and the normalization of the workers' (Osecac) benefit fund.

Construction workers (UOCRA) postponed elections a second time yesterday. Elections, to have been held March 25 through 27, were orginally scheduled for February 22.

Buenos Aires city grade school teachers (UMP) called on the municipality to approve their by-laws setting an 82-percent adjustable retirement pay following 25 years of service, as opposed to the 70 percent proposed. The government announced a 25.7 percent March pay increase for civil servants (UPCAN), but state workers (CGTE) rejected it as insufficient and discriminatory. CGT Secretary-General Jorge Triaca claimed the administration's proposal on benefit funds clearly tended to tighten "state control...transferring power from social organizations to a corporate elite."

Meanwhile, national Deputy Robert Sanmartino (Radical-Santa Fe) pointed out that the "benefit funds of many unions are so indebted, not even selling their property would held," which is why the government proposes to condone them. "Last year the total debt reached 4.2 billion pesos, which if indexed," he said, "would come to 25 billion."

FARMERS PREPARE FOR 48-HOUR STRIKE 27 MARCH

PY212135 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Mar 85 p 11

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Farmers were preparing yesterday for a 48-hour strike to begin on March 27. Farmhands, meanwhile, claimed the strike, which will mean no shipment of grain to Buenos Aires, favoured the "farmers over farm workers and their families." The Argentine Rural Society (SRA) announced it was joining the strike called for by the Argentine Rural Confederation (CRA), while the Group of the 11 expressed its "solidarity with the farmers demands." The Argentine Farmers Federation (FAA) said the government would have no need to "fear a 'pickupade' if it met farmers' demands, but on the contrary..." Yet did not explicitly back the strike, saying it was a measure "exclusively" taken by the CRA.

But farmhands (FATRE) called the strike a "destabilyzing threat to democracy." And former Movement for Integration and Development (MID) presidential candidate Rogelio Frigerio said unless "bottom-line changes" were made in economic policy, "we will witness the demise of Argentina's leadership as a grain-producing country, much the same as is now happening with livestock."

POLL SHOWS DISAPPROVAL OF ECONOMIC RECORD

PY231920 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] (DYN) -- More and more Argentines disapprove of the government's economic record and President Raul Alfonsin's popularity has dwindled slightly over the last year, according to a recent Gallup poll surveying 800 18-year-olds and over in Greater Buenos Aires. Asked what they thought of the administration's performance in economic matters, 67 percent disapproved (as compared to 47 percent in April, 46 percent in July and 53 percent in November of last year), 23 percent approved, and 10 percent did not reply. Regarding the president's popularity, 27 percent rated him "very good" (down from 34 percent last November), 45 percent "good" (up from 42 percent), five percent "bad," two percent "very bad" and four percent did not answer. All in all, therefore, 72 percent of those polled approve of Alfonsin's work in office over the past 12 months.

PRESIDENT NOTES COUNTRY'S LACK OF SEA OUTLET

PY242300 Paris AFP in Spanish 1625 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 24 Mar (AFP) -- Recalling the 106th anniversary of the loss of the Bolivian coastal territory during the war against Chile in 1879, Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo today stated that our quest is the quest of America, through the force of reason and justice.

In a speech addressed to the nation, the head of state said that the peoples of the world find it intolerable that Bolivia has been deprived of the benefits represented by an outlet to the sea.

In his speech, Siles Zuazo paid homage to Eduardo Avaroa, the great Bolivian hero of that war.

Over this weekend, the head of state also managed to win a confrontation against the powerful Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), which was forced to lift its 16-day-old indefinite general strike without having achieved its goal of a minimum salary with an adjustable rate.

MINISTER JUSTINIANO EVALUATES COB STRIKE

PY251547 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Statement by Planning and Coordination Minister Freddy Justiniano to Radio Panamericana on 25 March -- recorded]

[Excerpts] The COB took advantage of two aspects of the conflict. The first aspect represents a political concept aimed at modifying the current power pattern by demanding the resignation of President Siles, and the assumption to power of political organizations that basically follow the COB's political line but which only obtained 20,000 votes in the last elections.

The second aspect, which is fair, includes the economic claims made at a moment when the situation of the country is critical. It started by asking for a minimum wage with an adjustable rate at a time when the national income has decreased 35 percent in 4 years.

I consider that the first part of the conflict was strictly carried out from a political viewpoint. The basic demands for salary readjustment, price controls, and adequate supply of staples, which have been constant problems for the past years, were taken advantage of to demand other things that totaled 32 or 33 demands, including the peasant, mining, and metal worker sectors.

I would also like to say that the national and international press, radio, and television have covered this conflict very fairly by showing that there was both a salary and a political aspect to the COB conflict, which became a confrontation with the executive branch when it refused to reply to the oral and written proposals of the government. This was important in forming public opinion.

In the name of the government, I tell you that no one lost or won. What really prevailed is good sense and the understanding of the fact that one cannot demand something that is not available.

We have found a totally political solution to the conflict. However, it is also a totally inflationary solution. From the technical point of view and as the person responsible for the country's economy, I reiterate that it is really an illusion on the part of the workers because when salaries are increased, prices increase automatically.

As a general conclusion, we could say that it was clearly demonstrated that the people totally rejected the strike because it seriously affected production, services and transportation. It has also been demonstrated that it is better to dialogue and be more flexible and not to adopt measures of force because they only cause uncertainty for the people and cause losses.

Explains Package

PY260140 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] In an exclusive statement to Panamericana, Planning and Coordination Minister Jaime Justiniano made a preview of the content of a package of decrees the government will issue tonight to implement its agreements with the COB.

[Begin recording] The people are aware that the COB has accepted the government's offer. Therefore, a number of provisions will have to be issued not only tonight, but throughout this week, in order to implement the following decisions: The first decree will deal with the increase in the basic salary, the 3.1 million peso bonus, and the recomposition of the salary structure; the second will deal with the operation of inexpensive grocery stores; the third will deal with grocery stores run by business sectors, especially factories; and the fourth decree will deal with the distribution of land: 1 million hectares for the mining and metalworking sector and 1 million hectares for public employees.

These are the four main decrees that are being approved tonight. The first three decrees are the most important ones. A number of official invitations will also be extended to the COB to participate in the stages of production, marketing, distribution, and control, which we consider as important steps at this time. [end recording]

Justiniano reiterated that things have returned to normal, not because the labor movement has been defeated, but because important agreements for both parties have been reached.

[Begin recording] Furthermore, we should state that the government considers that things have returned to normal in the country, not because the working class has been defeated. At no time has the working class been defeated. It must be understood that there have been neither winners nor losers in the lifting of the indefinite general strike. The people have emerged as winners by resuming their normal activities. The losers are those minority groups infiltrated into the COB which attempted to seize power through an insurrection. [end recording]

POTOSI MAYOR SAYS ROADBLOCKS LEAVE CITY WITH NO FOOD

PY221859 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] The city of Potosi is totally isolated because the roads have been blocked. Thus, the situation in this city is one of total desperation owing to the marked shortage of foodstuffs. Furthermore, approximately 1,000 people from the rural areas of the country have been stranded in this city for 6 days and are facing health problems and food shortages.

Despite government claims, the Armed Forces have not moved in to clear the roadblocks. Every effort the authorities have made to persuade the peasants to open the roads has failed, according to the Potosi prefect, who called this station on the phone shortly after noon today.

[Begin recording] The truth is that we are having a problem here because of the decision of our fellow peasants to block the roads. For 4 or 5 days now we have been doing everything we could through dialogue in search of a peaceful solution, a compromise with our fellow peasants. All these efforts have been made through the government authorities, but we have been unable to reach an understanding with our fellow peasants.

We have not asked for a total lifting of the roadblocks, but for a mere truce in order to bring foodstuffs into Potosi, which is literally besieged, and we no longer have food for our population. We have also asked the peasants to allow the people from other parts of the country to leave this city through La Paz, Tarija, or Villazon. The situation of these people is extremely dramatic, healthwise, foodwise, moneywise, and so on.

However, we are still hoping that our fellow peasants will give up their inflexible attitude because what will happen is that they will compel the Armed Forces to enforce the orders of the president of the nation. [end recording]

The prefect also told us that the local branch of the Bolivian Labor Federation tried to have the roadblocks lifted, but that a few peasant leaders are remaining inflexible.

[Begin recording] In any case, all the people of Potosi and all Bolivians can bear witness to our continuous efforts to maintain a dialogue with our fellow peasants and of the negotiations of the local COB branch. However, the inflexibility of the peasants is such that we are practically powerless. In view of this, we will have to resort to other measures in our quest for a solution. [end recording]

POLICE ARREST SUSPECT IN TERRORIST ATTACKS

PY160320 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2248 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Excerpt] La Paz, 15 Mar (EFE) -- The Bolivian police have arrested Carlos Guido Benavidez Vazquez, a law student at La Paz University. He is accused of carrying out terrorist attacks against the workers.

The suspect is the son of Guido Benavides, former chief of the security services created by General Luis Garcia Meza's regime.

Benavidez Vasquez was arrested last Wednesday night near a location where a powerful bomb exploded recently. The attack was directed at a building at San Andres University, in San Andres, where 1,700 miners who had come to La Paz to stage antigovernment protests were staying.

The afternoon daily MERIDIANO reported today that the arrest of the son of the chief of security services during the military governments of generals Hugo Banzer Suarez and Luis Garcia Meza, has scuttled the government's claim that the perpetrators of five attacks which took place recently are members of the left.

According to the afternoon daily it also rules out speculations about individuals trained, possibly in Cuba, Nicaragua, or the Soviet Union, who are trying to create an atmosphere of political and social upheaval to topple Hernan Siles Zuazo's administration.

NEVES HEMORRHAGES, TRANSFERRED TO SAO PAULO

PY261037 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Report from Brasilia by Maria Cida]

[Text] The atmosphere is rather tense here at the Brasilia Military Base Hospital. We confirm a previous report saying that President Tancredo Neves has been transferred in order to prevent more serious problems. He was transferred to the heart institute of the Clinical Hospital of Sao Paulo. At dawn, the president suffered an [word indistinct] hemorrhage. It is an intestinal hemorrhage, so the doctors treating him decided to transfer him to Sao Paulo. The president was accompanied to Sao Paulo by some of his relatives [name indistinct], his son Tancredo Augusto, Aerce Cunha (Fernando), his whole medical team, Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, and the president's wife, Mrs Risoletta Neves.

Further Report

HK261008 Hong Kong AFP in English 1004 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Brasilia, March 26 (AFP) -- Brazilian President Tancredo Neves was rushed to a hospital in Sao Paulo early today after an intestinal hemorrhage, a presidential spokesman announced.

Mry Neves, operated on for an intestinal problem the day before he was due to be formally inaugurated on March 16, was flown to Sao Paulo from hospital in Brasilia.

NEW MONETARY CORRECTION MECHANISMS ANNOUNCED

PY252245 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Mar 85 p 31

[Text] Brasilia -- The most important feature of the monetary measures approved yesterday by the government is that the monetary correction will continue being fixed by using inflation as a base but employing different criteria. Within a few months there may be a gap [preceding word in English], which will be corrected later. For the Finance Ministry experts there is no doubt that the yearly parity among the inflation, the monetary correction, and the trade exchange correction will be maintained.

From now on, monthly mini-devaluations of the cruzeiro trade exchange rate will take place more frequently, and the Central Bank will eliminate the peak values that sometimes occur. Thus, speculation by exporters, who insure the goods to close the trade exchange contract with the new readjustment against the dollar, is prevented, and this makes things easier for the exporter, who always seeks to expedite the entry of the goods.

According to a Finance Ministry expert, the measures approved yesterday eliminate the uncertainties of an open-market policy and, theoretically, reduce the interest rates. These measures also prevent large fluctuations of interest rates in the market vis-a-vis the adjustments for liquidity. And they allow for a greater utilization of the National Treasury Letters, something which is good for the government to the extent that their discount is below par values and they are more flexible for administrating the public debt.

On 22 March, the Brazilian Government conveyed to the IMF the newly-approved measures in the monetary field. For the experts, there has not necessarily been any breach in the economic program agreed upon with the IMF.

Finance Ministry experts explained that the new criteria of fixing the monetary correction based on the geometric mean of the three last monthly inflation variations will begin in May. However, it will be possible to learn about the National Treasury Readjustable Orders, for May through the monetary correction for April, which is to be fixed by using February's inflation as a base.

MINISTER ORDERS REEXAMINATION OF RADIO PERMITS

PY200358 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Communications Minister Antonio Carlos Magalhaes has ordered that all the concessions and permits granted to radio and television stations since October 1984 be reexamined. The measure, enforced through a decree, was reported during a press conference today following a meeting with Acting President Jose Sarney. The decree creates a work team made up of representatives of the Ministry General Secretariat and of the National Communications Department [Dentel], which will have to make a complete case by case reexamination within 60 days. In the meantime, the awarding of pending concessions and permits will be halted.

The minister justified the decision on the grounds that the criteria established by the ministry have not been complied with in all cases.

NEW MILITARY AIRCRAFT READY TO BE PRODUCED

PY252320 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 24 Mar 85 p 34

[Text] Brasilia -- Two new models of the Brasilia military aircraft have already been concluded by the design team of the Brazilian Aeronautics Company (Embraer). One model will be designed for maritime patrol and will replace or will be used concurrently with the Bandeirante patrol aircraft, which is now being used by the "Orungan Squadron" at the Salvador Air Base. The other model, which is more sophisticated, will supplement the Integrated Systems for Air Defense and Traffic Control (Sindacta) I and II. This will be an advanced warning type aircraft (AWACS), a type of air platform equipped with a high powered radar capable of detecting intruders making low flights.

This information was released by Embraer President Osires Silva who did not say, however, when these new models will be available on the market.

The Brazilian Air Force has not yet confirmed its purchase plans. The two Brasilia military aircraft models, will be built only when a decision is made to this effect.

Silva believes, however, that his project for the Brasilia military aircraft will be approved soon.

He said: The Brazilian Air Force does not have adequate aircraft, and the Air Force General Staff is aware of this. A decision should be made quite soon.

The next Embraer project is a supersonic fighter, the design for which has already been defined. This is a duck-type fighter which has its wings located by the jet engine exhaust system, and its dive-control flaps near its nose. This type of structure has already been designed for the new fighters of the air forces of France and NATO and is considered most appropriate for fast-moving fighter planes.

Silva said that as soon as, the Brazilian Air Force decides what mission the supersonic fighter will perform, production will start. Two models are ready, on paper. The first would be used to perform air defense missions, a task now performed by Mirage III EBR planes in Anapolis (Goias State), that is, French planes which were disposed of by the French Air Force in the 1950's.

The second model will be designed to achieve air superiority and will replace the Tiger II F-5E American fighters, light and fast fighters which have little power. Both models will take direct flow engines of the new generation such as the Rolls Royce RB-199, or the Snecma M-88, or new motors now being designed by Garret and Saab.

Silva said that European and North American manufacturers of fighters have already examined the project and proposed a joint venture (a partnership) to launch it in the market. If these negotiations are successful, the dream of a Brazilian fighter plane built with entirely Brazilian technology will come true.

MATERIEL FACTORIES TO HAVE PRIVATE STOCKHOLDERS

PY150110 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 7 Mar 85 p 2 T

[Text] Brasilia -- The Ordnance Industry (IMBEL) executive board on 6 March approved a resolution to partially transfer to private ownership its light weapons, revolvers, rifles, machine guns, factory in Itajuba (Minas Gerais). This decision has been officially conveyed to Army Minister Walter Pires during a meeting held with IMBEL President Jose Luiz Whitaker and with General Jose de Alburquerque, the chief of the Army War Materiel Department.

This will be the second war materiel factory that will be privatized. The first one was a factory located in Juiz de Fora, which manufactures components for grenades. Since the factory in Itajuba requires considerable capital, IMBEL Taurus, and CBC [expansion unknown] enterpriese will together underwrite the capital stocks, and the Rossi Enterprise will do so at a future stage. "The main point is that the new owners commit themselves to put out all the materiel that the Army needs to carry out its normal activities," Gen de Albuquerque emphasized. Among such materiel, Gen de Albuquerque stressed the production of the FAL rifle, which is commonly used by all three branches of the Armed Forces, and all types of machine guns.

"Now, IMBEL continues holding 40 percent of the common stocks in both factories at Itajuba and Juiz De Fora. In the case of the factory in Juiz de Fora, the remaining 60 percent is held by the "Specialized Engineers, Inc," Gen de Albuquerque stated.

In the meantime, the factories manufacturing gunpowder (Piquete and Estrela) will remain in the hands of the Army. "This is so because their output is essential for a very sensitive sector, that is, the ammunition sector. In addition, this is a very profitable product on the domestic and international markets," Gen de Albuquerque remarked. The factory in Estrela is about to manufacture a new explosive, the RD-X, which will be launched in the domestic market as a fuse cord.

TALKS WITH BOLIVIA ON RELATIONS POSTPONED

PY231542 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Foreign Ministry spokesman Marcelo Padilla has disclosed that the Chilean-Bolivian talks to resume relations have been suspended for the time being. He added that in view of the prevailing situation in Bolivia, the Chilean Foreign Ministry has made a wise decision in postponing the talks sponsored by Colombian President Belisario Betancur. He added that Chile cannot change its opinion regarding the domestic affairs of other countries.

INTERIOR MINISTER CALLS FOR UNITY, COOPERATION

PY251345 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0947 GMT 24 Mar 85

[By Senen Conejeros]

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 24 Mar (EFE) -- Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia has called on all Chileans to unite and cooperate in the reconstruction of the country in view of the announced days of protest and solidarity in Santiago that have been called for 27 and 29 March by the political opposition parties.

Within the framework of the call for the day of protest to be held on 27 March and the day of solidarity and denunciation to be held on 29 March, the interior minister noted that the country is submerged in a period of work and activity. According to the minister, this is no time for idleness; rather it is a period for work, effort, and building.

Garcia Rodriguez added that the situation in the country is under control but that unfortunately certain regrettable incidents are taking place. Without going into much detail, the interior minister said that there are incidents undermining peace and order in the community such as bomb explosions. Unfortunately, there have been incidents which should have not taken place at this time.

The interior minister expressed his understanding of the problems that the curfew is imposing on a large part of the business sector by noting that the curfew will be gradually decreased in the next few days and that it is a temporary measure that will be enforced as long as necessary.

CNT PRESIDENT DISCUSSES 29 MARCH PROTEST

PY221642 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1035 GMT 22 Mar 85

[By Juan Jorge Faundes]

[Text] Santiago, 22 Mar (EFE) -- Manuel Bustos, acting president of the National Workers Command (CNT), today said that 29 March will be a day of solidarity and demands, not one of protest, because following the latest quake the people are hardly in any condition to take to the streets beating pans. Manuel Bustos, a Christian Democrat, is acting president of the largest Chilean opposition labor association, replacing Rodolfo Sequel, who must first solve the problem of his union's membership in the Copper Workers Confederation, which he represents in the CNT. Manuel Bustos told EFE that before the quake he favored staging a political protest on 27 March and felt that the CNT would successfully mobilize the community. He added that depite the state of siege there are so many reasons to protest the lack of justice that he was sure that the people could have overcome their fears.

He revealed that before the quake the main problem, in view of the state of siege, was to disseminate the call to protest so as to make it a concerted effort including the Democratic Alliance, the Socialist Bloc, and the Popular Democratic Movement.

He said, however, we have suffered this quake, which has ruined the lives of thousands and thousands of Chileans, and now the main problem of the Chilean people is acquiring food and shelter. Therefore, we have decided to stage a solidary mobilization to demand from the regime the solution of problems created by the catastrophe through government actions.

Bustos told EFE that the high point of the drive will be on 29 March, but that the entire week will be one of solidarity. The union leader added that the CNT will work out some type of demonstration of national dissatisfaction for the regime's benefit for the second half of April, so as to prepare the ground for mass demonstrations on 1 May.

Bustos feels that the call the Metropolitan Social Agreement Board, made up of left-wing forces, has made for a day of national protest on 27 March will not help to unite but rather to weaken the popular forces and that it is merely strength wasted. The Christian Democratic Party has announced that it will not participate in the protest on 27 March for reasons similar to those set forth by Bustos, that is, out of solidarity with the earthquake victims.

PDC NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN 27 MARCH PROTEST

PY221924 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2105 GMT 21 Mar 85

[By Senen Conejeros]

[Text] Santiago, 21 Mar (EFE) -- The Christian Democratic Party [PDC], the main Chilean opposition party, has announced that it will not participate in the national protest scheduled for 27 March. The PDC stated that it will not participate in this protest called by several organizations.

The PDC feels that this protest has not been discussed with either the party or the Democratic Alliance (a coalition of democratic opposition parties) and that it is not in keeping with the spirit of solidarity or the efforts that the party has been making to help fellow countrymen affected by the 3 March earthquake. PDC leaders earlier indicated that they supported the nationwide drive of solidarity, denunciation, and demands to be held on 29 March, while Marxist political sectors have been advocating the first national protest of 1985 for 27 March.

The protest on 27 March has been called by the so-called Metropolitan Social and Political Agreement Board after having been approved by 69 social organizations during the first meeting of this Agreement Board held on 9 March.

On 27 March, the organizers plan to stage several meetings in front of halls and ministries during which lists of demands will be submitted. That night the organizers are urging the people to take to the streets, participate in marches and meetings, light bonfires, erect barricades, and beat pots and pans or sound horns. On 29 March, there will be a collection for quake victims, lists of demands will be submitted to city halls, and in the evening there will be a wake for those who died in the 3 March quake.

The national protests that the copper miners started in April 1983 have taken a dozen forms since and have resulted in more thatn 100 fatalities. The last protest, which took place on 27 and 28 November, 20 days after the state of siege was decreed, was one of the least supported.

EL MERCURIO ON TRANSITION TOWARD DEMOCRACY

PY259100 Santiago EL MERURIO in Spanish 16 Mar 85 p A 3

[Editorial: "Requirements for a Transition"]

[Text] The people must have been pleased by the speech with which Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia opened the ninth period of sessions of the Economic and Social Council. He reiterated that the government's goal is to implement the institutionalization process established in the Constitution. He also conveyed the government's firm determination to maintain the effective and timely implementation of this process as a major official objective, despite the consequences of the earthquake and the reconstruction work undertaken afterward.

Even though it is true that the socioeconomic development that should serve as a foundation for the new democracy is an unpostponable task, it is also true that vast local sectors regard the transition from the military regime, which will step down in 1989, to a constitutional system of government as the greatest, most complex, and urgent challenge.

As the interior minister put it, the institutionalization process is linked with the need "to gradually and in a timely manner enforce each of the constitutional provisions at an early date, in keeping with the deadlines established for each case, particularly insofar as matters of net political character are concerned." The process is also linked with the approval of other essential supplementary constitutional organic laws which deserve equal attention and care.

From a political viewpoint, however, it is obvious that a judicial structure created on the basis of constitutional principles and of regulations approved at lower government level is an ingredient of major importance, because such principles and regulations will provide the framework within which political activities will develop. The problem is that because of a type of intellectual distortion that Chileans apparently tend to accept, political solutions are many times limited to a set of laws, in the hope that such laws will alone be able to build the perfect republic.

But political science and history teach us that even though constitutional regulations may have decisive importance, there are at times other elements that act even more strongly. It is these elements that deserve as much or even greater attention from those whose duty it if to shape our political future.

It is proper to recall that the organizated political forces, the individual and collective agents, their necessary and legitimate ideological differences, the circumstances surrounding each particular situation, our traditions and our recent past, and above all the prevailing intellectual and moral atmosphere, are factors that cannot be handled merely by issuing laws. They call for another kind of solution.

That is why the people remain rather skeptical about the possibility that a transition conceived only as a set of constitutional principles and approved laws may succeed in creating a political system that can guarantee peaceful coexistance, prevent the aggravation of national conflicts, guarantee respect for essential human rights, and operate with efficient mechanisms when dealing with the problems that every community has to confront. This will only be achieved if all the people participate in the building of their own future. To attain this goal the government's receptivity is not enough; it is necessary to open new horizons for the free expression of the people.

STUDENTS ARRESTED WHILE HELPING QUAKE VICTIMS

PY221449 Paris AFP in Spanish 0046 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Santiago, 18 Mar (AFP) -- Three students, two Argentines and one Chilean, were arrested by the police today while helping victims of the quake that shook central Chile on 3 March. The two Argentines, Alejandro Navarro and Adrian Lebendiker, are part of a delegation of 40 Argentine youths from various organizations that on 18 March joined the solidarity drive of Santiago students. The Chilean Student Federation (FECh) reported their arrest, explaining that the two Argentine students were arrested by Carabineros agents along with Chilean Alvar Herrera in Machali, 100 km south of Santiago. The FECh stated that the Argentine Embassy in Santiago has been notified of their arrest and that an embassy spokesman indicated that the two youths may shortly by expelled from Chile. Meanwhile, attorney Mario Marquez has filed a habeas corpus petition before the Rancagua Court of Appeals. The delegation, made up of representatives of the Buenos Aires and San Juan Federation of University Students, the Socialist Youth, the Communist Youth Federation, and the Peronist and Christian Democratic Youths, has released a message stating that we have come to Chile to make the spirit of solidarity of our people and the historic unity of Latin American men and women come true.

Argentine Set Free

PY222002 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Two Argentine students, who were arrested in Machali for participating in disorders, have been set free, according to Argentine Embassy Counselor Raul Estrada, who noted that the two youngsters belong to the University Federation of Argentine Students. These students, along with others, entered the country, to participate in assisting the earthquake victims. The students are Adrian Lebendiker and Alejandro Navarro, according to Estrada. Estrada added that a call by the Machali Carabineros station had been received reporting this action and asking him to go to the station to confirm the citizenship of the two students. Once this step was completed, the youngsters were set free and now they are staying at the offices of the Chilean Student Federation. Estrada added that no action will be taken since the situation has been resolved.

Cuadra Comments

PY230210 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Report from Government House by reporter Daniel Ortich]

[Text] Minister Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra has confirmed that a group of three persons who were conducting political activities near a soup kitchen in Machali were arrested by the Carabineros police. Cuadra reported that two of them are Argentines and that one of them had entered the country with false indentification documents. Their names are Adrian Lebandiker and Alejandro Navarro and they were put at the disposition of the Argentina Consul General so that they immediately leave the country.

The two individuals, the minister said, belong to a so-called Communist Youth Federation and to other groups that are included in a major federation of Argentine students. These individuals entered the country separately through Mendoza, and had worked in Nicaragua in the past. Cuadra said that this confirms a denouncement made in January and confirmed during the first days of March that Communist sectors would try to undertake subversive actions during this month, taking advantage of the consequences of the earthquake. In the last few days, about 45 to 70 Argentine youths entered the country to undertake what they call helpful activities, but which really turn out to be political activism, just as we had suspected, Cuadra said.

BETANCUR SAYS WEAPONS BAN 'IRREVOCABLE'

PA252014 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 25 Mar 35

[Text] Bogota -- President Belisario Betancur said that the government's decision to ban any political event in which people who are armed or wearing Armed Forces clothing are present is irrevocable. In a call issued to governors, intendants, commissioners, mayors, police inspectors, and corregidores, Betancur called for increased efforts in the prevention and control of crimes in compliance with the mandate of the Constitution regarding the protection of the life, honor, and property of Colombians. These instructions demand compulsory and immediate compliance, the president said and explained that the need for authorities, as stated in the Constitution, is even more important at the present time because of the uncertainty and lack of security in certain regions of the country.

He said that it is everyone's duty to double efforts to protect the life, honor, and property of citizens through attitudes that prevent and reject any action to disturb peace and public order. Regarding any disruption that is a crime, particularly extortion and kidnapping, it is the duty of the authorities to cooperate with the judges so that those responsible and their accomplices are investigated and punished, he added.

Betancur said that the government must and does offer freedom of expression, freedom of political organization, and freedom to participate in the elections to all Colombians. These freedoms are also extended to all parties and political movements as long as their activities are carried out within the law; that is, without the carrying or use of weapons.

He emphasized that the government's decision is firm on banning any political event in which people who are armed or who wear or carry clothes or gear used by the military are present because above all parties, movements, and political groups are legal expressions of civilian activities which are protected by the law, as they are prescribed in the law and punished by it. Betancur stressed that these instructions demand compulsory and immediate compliance. All civilian, military, and police authorit well as the security forces, must coordinate their actions to this end.

SECURITY COUNCIL ON TRUCE, CEASE-FIRE

PA240406 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 19 Mar 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] The government authorities have respected the truce and cease-fire agreements signed by the Peace Commission and the Negotiation and Dialogue Commission, according to the Security Council.

After a nearly 4-hour session, the Security Council, headed by Government Minister Jaime Castro Castro, and including the ministers of defense and justice, General Miguel Vega Uribe, and Enrique Parejo Gonzalez, respectively, announced its willingness to engage in a dialogue with the guerrillas and said that it expects that "those who signed the agreements will show their true willingness to help in the consolidation of the pacification process."

The above statement was contained in an official communique released by the Security Council, which also reminds the civilian, military, and police authorities of their obligation to carry out the responsibilities assigned them by law, such as protecting life, honor, and property. The communique by the Security Council, which had not held a session for 2 weeks, came after some guerrilla movements, such as the 19 April Movement and the FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forced of Colombia) announced last week that the government and military forces had broken the peace and cease-fire agreements.

The following is the text of the communique issued by the Security Council:

The National Security Council, after carefully analyzing the various incidents disrupting public order in the country, reminds the various civilian, military,and police authorities of their unavoidable obligation to carry out fully and strictly their responsibilities for protecting life, honor, and property, keeping in mind that whoever violates our laws shall be punished with the full weight of the law, as delinquents and without consideration to their origin or political affiliation. A public force must not only comply with its own functions, but it must also be committed to cooperating with the necessary support of other authorities to fulfill their duties.

The council invites the population to denounce before the competent authority and before public opinion any official who, claiming any motive, abstains from doing his duty in a timely and proper manner.

The truce and cease-fire agreements signed by the Peace Commission and the Negotiation and Dialogue Commission with representatives of the guerilla organizations, which the government authorities have respected and shall continue to do so, must lead to the consolidation of the legitimate authority throughout the national territory.

The Security Council reminds of its disposition, and that of all other authorities, in general, to the dialogue, and expects that those who signed the agreements will show their true willingness to help consolidate the pacification process desired by the nation. This will make it easier to distinguish between the application and results of the government's peace policy, and the criminal actions intended to be carried out under the protection of the truce. In compliance with their functions, the military and police authorities have adopted special security measures to be put into effect to guarantee calm in the regions most affected by incidents which undermine public order.

Bogota, 18 March 1985

Defense Minister Comments

PA212137 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Mar 85 p 1 A

[By Eduardo Garcia Martinez]

[Text] Cartagena, 17 Mar -- The Colombian Government has not broken the truce agreement and if guerillas insist on keeping their weapons that is their problem. Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe, said in Cartagena.

The minister arrived in this city last evening with Government Minister Jaime Castro Castro, Development Minister Gustavo Castro Guerrero, Treasury Minister Roberto Junguito Bonnet, and Health Minister Rafael de Zubiria. Together they will analyze the Navy's budget, which is allegedly facing a critical situation as a result of expenditure cuts decreed by the central government.

"No, the government has not broken any agreement," the minister said in response to the M-19's charge. On the warning issued by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia that it will once again take up weapons because the government has allegedly violated the truce, Vega Uribe said: "That's their problem, isn't it?" The minister refused to make further comments and boarded one of the vehicles that awaited the cabinet members to take them to the House of Honorable Guests.

For his part, Edgar Garay Rubio, commander of the Atlantic Naval Force, said that the Navy's budgetary problems are growing each day and that the situation is very worrisome. "There are certain operations we cannot stop performing, but the lack of resources is hampering us," he explained. The ministers returned to Bogota yesterday.

M-19'S WOLFF REITERATES ALLEGIANCE TO TRUCE

PA212130 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Mar 85 p 9 A

[By Ramiro Castellanos A.]

[Excerpts] The 19 April Movement [M-19] will continue to participate in the national dialogue and uphold the truce, and under no circumstances will it abandon either, M-19 leader Antonio Navarro Wolff said yesterday, adding that his organization will continue its social and political struggle within the context of the democratic opening.

Navarro Wolff appeared at a press conference at Bogota's Press Circle to clarify what he described as a misinterpretation by CARACOL reporter Juan Guillermo Rios of a statement issued by a fellow M-19 leader Alvaro Fayad. According to the reporter, Fayad said that the agreements with the government had been abandoned. Wolff stated that if the peace process holds, the M-19 will participate in the elections and lay down its arms. However, he warned that if it fails, all M-19 members will pick up their weapons and the failure will result in a very high price for the country. "The M-19 wants to govern," he stated. The rebel leader indicated that if the peace process does not hold the guerrilla movement will stop being a guerrilla movement and become an army.

MILITARY ORDERS TROOPS ON 'PREVENTIVE' ALERT

PA251906 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Mar 85 pp 1 A, 9 A

[By Rafael Sarmiento and Celmira Figueroa]

[Text] Barranquilla, 20 Mar -- Sources close to the 2d Brigade confirmed here today that the public order situation in various areas of the Atlantic coast is tense and for this reason the top military command has ordered the troops on a preventive alert to meet any eventual emergency. General Eduardo Plata Quinonez, commander of the Operations Unit, left for Bogota early today to meet with top military commanders headed by Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe to make an extensive detailed analysis of the current situation in certain areas, especially in Cesar and Cordoba Departments.

In Cesar's southern sector, individuals who are alleged members of the self-styled National Liberation Army (ELN) have committed several crimes in Curimani, Chimichagua, Pailitas, and El Copey. In addition, there were bloody incidents caused by a group of drug traffickers in Jagua de Ibirico and this is also contributing to destabilizing the region.

In Cordoba, a group of guerrillas, apparently members of the People's Liberation Army (ELP), carried out several violent actions killing four peasants, two of them brothers who were forcefully abducted from a party. The military authorities have kept strict control in the region to counteract the actions of the rebel group who acquired weapons that are illegally imported by drug traffickers. According to a source close to the intelligence service, "arms were being introduced into the country for the guerrillas via the coast. These arms were being brought into the country, especially through a connection with the drug traffickers who exchange marijuana and cocaine for weapons at the international markets, and, at the same time, supply the guerrillas groups with them in exchange for protection by the rebels on plantations and at transporattion and shipments points." The same sources disclosed that many shipments of weapons and ammunition have been intercepted and that those carrying them declared themselves accomplices of "interdisciplinary" groups of guerrillas and drug traffickers.

PRESIDENT OVERRIDES CHAMBER'S WAGE BILL VETO

PA220441 Paris AFP in Spanish 0203 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Quito, 21 Mar (AFP) -- Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero has ordered the publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE of the new vital minimum wage and the wage increase for those who earn low wages that was vetoed a few days ago by the Chamber of Representatives, the Government House announced tonight in a communique.

The wage increase bill has worsened the situation between the executive and legislative branches because the executive branch has proposed a 30-percent increase, while the Chamber of Representatives proposed 50-percent. The executive branch accused the Chamber of Representatives of illegal procedures, but the Tribunal of Constitutional Rights, TGC, the ultimate authority in such instances, voted seven to one in favor of the Chamber of Representatives.

The executive branch immediately took an action that no one expected. On Monday, it issued a decree modifying a regulation by which the nation's attorney general's decision prevails over any resolution issued by the TGC; this of course invalidates last night's TGC resolution. As expected, tonight the TGC expressed its disapproval of the executive branch decree.

In the communique, the government scores the opposition, which is the majority in the Chamber of Representatives, stating that in 7 months they have not done anything to approve the housing bill for low-income families and the free health care bill for children, some of the bills that the executive branch has submitted to the Chamber of Representatives for approval.

The communique also terms the attitude assumed by the Chamber of Representatives in approving a wage increase bill that is unconstitutional and lacks funding to make it effective as "blind and vengeful opposition." For this reason the government offered to submit another wage increase bill, based on the amount already submitted by the government, which will be made effective January 1986. The communique also criticized the TGC, comprised mostly by members of the opposition, and urged all of the institutions to maintain harmony.

The new wage increase, which is retroactive to 1 March, establishes the vital minimum wage at 8,500 sucres ($121), which represents a $23 increase and $10 more as part of a compulsory wage package termed "compensation for cost of living," apart from the $21 for those that earn up to $210.

Meanwhile, 24 teachers today continued the second day of a hunger strike, while public teachers continued the indefinite strike which they began on Tuesday to force the approval of the bill submitted by the Chamber of Representatives, which the executive branch still has not received.

A policeman was shot in the leg this morning as a result of the social unrest created by student street demonstrations in Quito. A few hours ago, Defense Minister General Luis Pineiros and the Armed Forces commanders reiterated their support for Ecuador's democratic life and their strict obedience to their specific military duties.

Promulgates Wage Law

PA221846 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Patricio Quevedo Teran, national secretary of public information, has announced that in keeping with his promise to the nation and supported by constitutional and legal provisions, the Ecuadoran president has promulgated the wage increase law that establishes new wages for Ecuadorans effective 1 March.

The national secretary of public information also announced that in fulfilling his commitment to the nation, the president will send to the National Chamber a new bill to increase the minimum wage to 10,000 sucres a month effective 1 January 1986.

Comments on Wage Increase Issue

PA241255 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] President Leon Febres Cordero traveled to Guayaquil yesterday, where a rally was organized in support of his government. In statements to the press, Febres Cordero said that politicians are the ones who create problems.

"Politicians are creating problems. They have made every possible effort to prevent increases in the Ecuadoran workers' wages. However, Ecuadoran men and women, the ordinary citizens, 99.999 percent of all Ecuadoreans are at peace. Although lately and at no fault of the government, wages have been raised effective 1 March of the present year."

President Febres Cordero defended the legality of the decree issued on Monday night, calling for the finance minister's intervention in matters that are dealt with by the TGC. He alleged that according to the present judicial system, the TGC's declarations of suspension are not retroactive.

"According to our present judicial system, the TGC's declarations of suspension are not retroactive, and if the decision it made yesterday is legitimate, this would mean that the decree, the law issued by the executive branch between Monday 18 March and yesterday when it supposedly was suspended, had been in effect. To have suspended it means that it was in effect. Therefore, they needed the Finance Ministry's approval to decide that the closing of Congress was constitutional, and they needed the finance minister's approval as well to declare the suspension of yesterday's decree. This is a confusing issue and I do not like discussing it at this type of interview. The TGC must justify its violating the laws and the Constitution."

Criticizes Legislative Opposition

PA251525 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] Guayaquil -- Yesterday, Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero harshly criticized his opposition during the inauguration of the access roads to the Guayaquil suburb of Guasno. Addressing the Guasno residents, the president said: Hear me well! Democracy is to live in liberty under the country's Constitution and laws. Democracy is not to harshly and senselessly impose a constant majority vote, as do extremists in the National Chamber. Democracy is to enact legislation that allows all of the country's sectors to live in harmony. Democracy is to respect the other state powers. Democracy is to respect the sovereign decision of a people who elected a president for a 4-year term to govern without having to face, every day of the week, every week of the year, a blinded opposition, which is not moved by the desire to defend our interests but rather by extremist views and abject treachery.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER EVALUATES TRIP TO U.S.

PY251742 Paris AFP in Spanish 1815 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] Lima, 24 Mar (AFP) -- The U.S. Government, through its secretary of agriculture, has expressed concern over the recent Peruvian purchase of 320,000 tons of wheat from Argentina based on a $40 million credit granted by that country, Peruvian Agriculture Minister Juan Hurtado Miller revealed today in Lima. The agriculture minister, who returned from Washington after carrying out negotiations with international banks and meeting with his U.S. counterpart, explained that the reason for the purchase was the low international price obtained from Argentina at $118 per ton, while the United States was offering $152 per ton.

The minister said that this great price difference made Peru purchase wheat from Argentina, an amount which was later expanded to 100,000 tons, which saved Peru $30 million [sentence as received] As a result of this dialogue, the U.S. Government offered Peru lower cereal prices for the immediate future. Peru consumes 1.1 million tons of wheat per year but only produces 100,000 tons.

The minister also said that the World Bank will grant the Peruvian Agrarian Bank a credit with a new payment system, that is, it will only hand over a portion of the loan, and the rest will be delivered after observing the repayment of the funds for a reasonable time. He also said that he was able to reactivate with the IDB Executive Board a credit of $120 million of which Peru only used $40 million and that the negotiations will permit its immediate availability.

The minister added that he submitted to the IDB a loan request for $150 million, which will be received by the new government chosen in the 14 April elections. Hurtado Miller pointed out that the entire loan is aimed at agricultural production, especially in the Andean zone, the most affected by the food shortage.

SHINING PATH PLAN TO THWART ELECTIONS DISCOVERED

PY162100 Lima Televisora Lima in Spanish 0300 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Oscar Brush Noel commented today on the raiding of the Shining Path hideout in Chorrillos and gave details of what was found at that house at Inti Street in San Juan Bautista de Villa. He said:

[Begin recording] Yesterday at about 1800 the Civil Guard raided a clandestine printing shop of the Shining Path Peruvian Communist Party, located at 148 Inti Street, in San Juan Bautista de Villa, Chorrillos. Valuable printing machinery and typewriters have been confiscated, as well as a large amount of subversive propaganda, which is evidence to us that a very important site for subversive terrorist propaganda has been raided. [end recording] The Civil Guard raid is a hard blow to Shining Path subversion. The Civil Guard has thwarted a whole seditious plan to boycott the upcoming general elections. The police found at the site a well-equipped printing shop in operation, at a time when the extremists were about to send a large number of cardboard boxes with instructions to their accomplices in the provinces, particularly in Ayacucho Department, on how to prevent at any cost the holding of the 14 April elections.

DEMONSTRATION AGAINST STROESSNER HELD IN MONTEVIDEO

PY231555 Paris AFP in Soanish 0333 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 22 Mar (AFP) -- Several thousand people in Uruguay today participated in a rally organized by Paraguayan political organizations in exile and Uruguayan labor organizations to support the Paraguayan peoples' struggle against the military dictatorship that rules that country.

Representatives of the Paraguayan Confederation of workers in Exile,[the Legitimate Paraguayan Confederation of Workers in Exile, CPTE], the Colorado Popular Movement (Mopoco), the Febrerista Revolutionary Party, the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, the Christian Democratic Party, the Paraguayan Solidarity Movement in Argentina. and relatives of missing Paraguayan citizens, as well as groups gathered under the local Interunion Workers Plenum belonging to the National Convention of Workers (PIT-CNT), took part in the rally, which was held along the main avenue of Montevideo between the La Independencia and La Libertad Plazas.

SALARY INCREASE GRANTED TO PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS

PY251646 Montevideo Radio Oriental Network in Spanish 1630 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Today at noon the executive branch approved a salary increase for private sector workers. This salary increase, which will be retroactive to 1 March, was approved by President Julio Maria Sanguinetti in agreement with Labor and Social Works Minister Hugo Fernandez and the economy minister.

INTERUNION WORKERS PLENUM CALLS STRIKE FOR 27 MARCH

PY221517 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0320 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 21 Mar (EFE) -- The largest Uruguayan workers confederation, the Interunion Workers Plenum [PIT], today called a general strike for 27 March. The strike will be the first mass workers protest with which Julio Maria Sanguinetti's democratic administration will have to deal.

The strike will last half a day and will be crowned by a workers rally in front of the congressional buildings where the lawmakers will be called upon for prompt solutions to the crisis in the textile industry, whose workers are currently on strike.

The PIT has warned Sanguinetti's government that it will step up strong-arm measures if any attempt is made to repress the protest scheduled for 27 March.

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT

FL251935 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Before arriving in Mexico City, for an official 3-day visit, Argentine President Raul Alfonsin greeted the Mexican president with a telegram sent from the airplane bringing him from Washington, D.C. to this city. During his stay here, the Argentine President will speak with his Mexican counterpart about the Latin American debt and the possibilities for bilateral cooperation between the two nations to solve this problem.

Alfonsin's visit is important because he is the first democratic president of that nation to visit here following several years of military rule.

At 1040 Mexico City time (1640 GMT) the Argentine Air Force Boeing 707 arrived at the presidential hangar of the Mexico City International Airport where Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda, the Foreign Secretariat prococol director, and several members of the staff of the Argentine Embassy were awaiting him. After the Mexican and Argentine groups had greeted each other, President Raul Alfonsin and Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda got into automobile which took them to the National Palace, where the ceremonial welcome of the distinguished guest will take place.

At the palace, the two leaders will hold their first talks and exchange gifts. Alfonsin will be welcomed by members of the Argentine community in Mexico at the Argentine Embassy at 1730.

Accompanying the Argentine president are Juan Carlos Publiese, provisional president of the Argentine Senate; the president of the Chamber of Deputies; Foreign Minister Dante Caputo; Argentine Ambassador Facundo Suaroz; and others.

Greeted by De la Madrid

FL252018 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1913 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 25 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- On welcoming Argentine President Raul Alfonsin today, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid said that profound and permanent solutions to world economic problems will not come about through authoritarianism or demagoguery. De la Madrid said the economic problems will have to be resolved within democratic and nationalist lines, and added that recent history has demonstated that in many areas of the world, authoritarianism does not favor economic solutions.

President Alfonsin said Mexico shares with Argentina the preoccupation of Latin America countries on overcoming the present economic crisis they are going through, but underscored the necessity of resolving this within a democratic framework.

During the ceremony held at the National Palace, President De la Madrid said that Mexico recognizes Alfonsin's work, in all its magnitude, who in obedience to the mandate of his people, has restored democracy and freedom, which he added, contributes to strengthening the rest of the Latin American nations.

President Alfonsin expressed his confidence, that talks with President Miguel de la Madrid would be fruitful, especially because of the significance of this stage of democracy, which will be lasting in his country and in all Latin America.

PRESIDENT DEFENDS ECONOMIC REFORM POLICIES

PA241903 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 20 Mar 85 p 4

[Text] Puebla -- President De la Madrid defended his administration's economic policies Tuesday before a gathering of State of Puebla businessmen, declaring that Mexico is "immersed" in a process change.

"Many people are bothered by the word 'change' because they wonder if it will affect the fundamental values we believe in as Mexicans," the president said. "I think there is a national consensus that there is no change in these values."

De la Madrid told the private businessmen that Mexico is not about to change the democratic system which, "even with its imperfections," is in the process of being perfected. "We are not about to change a perfectible system for an authoritarian system of any type," he affirmed.

The president concentrated in his address on the common objectives of the administration and the nation's business sector. Both groups, he noted, are eager to make the economy more efficient, to modernize the nation's productive plants and to gear production toward export. The government, he said, has already done its part in the implementation of "severe measures" adjusting public finances and bringing the exchange rate "in line with reality." Businessmen, too, have been forced to adopt new strategies in their companies, modifying production, marketing and financing systems in response to the economic crisis, he added.

He said the private and public sectors must join forces to increase exports and generate badly-needed foreign exchange. "I have said many times that within the foreseeable future we will not have the great resources that in past years have come from petroleum or massive foreign lending."

In one of his most explicit statements on the subject to date, the president said that a key to export expansion is a revision in "protectionist schemes that not only raise prices for the consumer at home but involve us in a structre of costs that weaken our competitiveness in foreign markets."

De la Madrid said the international market is going through a "great indepth transformation" that is changing the demands made of each country. Consequently, he announced, "We are going to revise many of the policies that in other times had their explanation, or even justification." He added that economic plans must be open to changes and rejected dogmatic, rigid planning procedures. Given Mexico's democratic system, he said. Dialogue among the various sectors is the best way to ensure the efficient operation of the mixed Mexican economy.

EL DIA SAYS RELIGIOUS SECTS ENGAGE IN SPYING

PA221413 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 18 Mar 85 pp 1, 3

[By Helidoro Cardenas Garza and Jorge Octavio Ochoa]

[Excerpts] Foreign religious sects, which operate in Mexico in complete anonymity, carry out espionage activities that go even beyond our borders. The sects mask their work under the cover of social assistance. They also conduct social, economic, and political surveys throughout the national territory, particularly in the regions that they consider to be most "restive." Later, the sects send this information to the U.S. State Department.

Manned by the religious sect Seventh Day Adventists, the CIA has a hospital in Bellavista, Frontera Comalapa municipality, in Chiapas, a state bordering Guatemala. The hospital is fitted with the most modern electronics equipment which is used to control all activities in this area and Central America, mainly in Nicaragua, Guatemala, and El Salvador. Through reports to EL DIA by Lucio Vasquez Tonatzin, official spokesman of the National Coordinating Board for Indigenous Peoples and information supplied by local residents, it has been learned that this clinic-hospital has two antennas, one microwave and the other parabolic, and pwerful radios or communcations with other countries. All this is connected to U.S. satellites that detect activities in Central America and then relay this information to the Pentagon.

Another of the religious organizations that has spread its organization network in the region is the so-called Christian Children's Fund, Inc which according to documents in the possession of EL DIA, carries out political, social and economic surveys and sends them to its main office in Richmond, Virginia. This sect and the Summer Institute of Linguistics have close ties with the IDB, which is in turn linked to the CIA.

Still other religious organizations operating in Chiapas are: Jehovah's Witnesses; Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints; Sabbath Keepers [Sabatistas]; Sunday Keepers [Dominguistas]; Presbyterians; Mormons; evangelists; Light of the World [Luz del Mundo]; and Light of the Day and Living Water [Luz del Dia y Agua Viva]. All these sects proselytize in various area of Chiapas and they also have journals that they bring from the United States.

The Indian leader pointed out that most of the personnel in these centers are anthropologists, sociologists, engineers, physicists, and chemists, and that these installations are normally located in areas where there are oil, minerals and other natural resources. Vasquez Tonatzin, who also based his assertions on statements by local Indian residents, indicated that the Seventh Day Adventists possess three light airplanes that they use for transport to at least eight other landing strips in the middle of the Chiapas jungle and mountains near the border. Despite the difficulties encountered, those on board the aircraft observe the territory and report what they see along the border.

They also have station wagons, tractors, irrigation equipment, recently built classrooms, a clinic for 20 patients, modern X-ray equipment, and dental laboratory. In addition, a clinical analysis laboratory is about to be installed. As has already been said, such installations have advanced electronics equipment not at all related to the health services rendered. This equipment includes powerful radio communication with foreign countries and microwave and parabolic antennas, all of which are linked to U.S. satellites that detect activities in the region and relay this information to the Pentagon. Curiously, the Adventists argue that all this equipment has been acquired thanks to the sale of vegetables, medical fees, and the assistance given by their religious organization throughout the world.

To top it all off, the Bellavista clinic-hospital disburses huge sumes of money every 3 months to graduates of the sect's universities, who join the "social assistance" activities. All graduates are U.S. citizens. For this reason, it is not pleasant to deal with Indians who can only speak their dialect and English.

As a strategic region, Chiapas State has been flooded by religious sects which, by fostering confusion, indifference, and, of all things, the worship of "man's best friends" (the Yankees), question the respect due our sovereignty because these sects never report their activities to the federal government.

ARDITO BARLETTA, COSTA RICA'S MONGE ISSUE STATEMENT

PA220419 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 21 Mar 85 p 9 B

[Joint Statement by President Nicolas Ardito Barletta and Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, signed in David, Chiriqui Province, on 19 March]

[Text] Joint Statement

Accepting a generous invitation from the president of the Republic of Panama, Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta, the president of the Republic of Costa Rica, Luis Alberto Monge, paid an official visit to the city of David, Chiriqui Province, Republic of Panama, on 18 and 19 March accompanied by a high-level delegation.

The occasion offered the opportunity for the heads of state to renew the bonds of fraternal friendship, mutual understanding, and democratic vocation existing between the two countries, as well as their respect for the principles of freedom, human rights, self-determination of the peoples, nonintervention into the internal affairs of states, ideological plurality, the peaceful solution of controversies, and cooperation for economic and social development, which are mankind's permanent values which are equally respected by the governments and peoples of Costa Rica and Panama.

During their talks, the two heads of state examined the complex international political and economic situation, the Central American crisis, the Contadora Group's efforts, and, particularly, their bilateral relations on a general level as well as those related to the border area.

Concentrating their attention on the analysis of the international economic situation, the two presidents agreed that protectionism, tariff barriers, and the deterioration of the terms of exchange hinder international trade. They reiterated the urgent need to promote negotiations for establishing a new international economic order. They agreed to stress that cooperation between the industrialized and developing nations must be expanded to permit the economic recovery of the latter, which will positively affect the economic and social progress of the peoples of the world.

They voiced their hope that the renegotiation of the external debt of the Latin American countries by the commercial banking sector and the international financial organizations will grant greater facilities to permit the governments' compliance with their credit commitments without sacrificing their people's welfare.

The presidents expressed their satisfaction over the development and strengthening of the democratic processes in Latin America, which will bolster the peoples' participation in decisionmaking that affects the nations on the continent. In that respect, they showed their enthusiasm for the rise to power of democratic governments through the electoral process.

After discussing the complex Central American situation, they agreed that the crisis affecting the region is rooted in secular problems related to the social, economic, and political imbalance that has appeared in the past few years and is worsened by the present unfair international economic order, which unbalances relations with the developing countries, such as unequal exchange rates, protectionist barriers, difficulties in obtaining funds to finance programs required for economic and social development, and the changing rates of interest seriously affecting the economies in the region.

The presidents agreed that the crisis in the Central American region must not be viewed within the framework of the East-West confrontation, but from a Latin American perspective. Consequently, they reaffirmed their conviction that in the search for a solution, the dialogue and the negotiations constitute a "sine qua nom" condition as civilized and effective formulas to obtain a stable and lasting peace that may lead the region to the path of democracy, freedom, peaceful coexistence, mutual respect, and socioeconomic progress. In this respect, they valued the initiative of the Contadora Group which, as mediator and a valid alternative to the solution of the crisis, opened the channels of dialogue and political negotiation between the area states and, during the course of 2 years of hard work and patience, finds itself on the threshold of restoring peace.

The heads of state expressed their confidence that the "Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America" will be signed as soon as possible, and exchanged ideas related to the short-term steps to be taken within the negotiating process so that this instrument may be signed, and the necessary mechanisms of verification and control be put into effect to safeguard the region from the dangers hovering over it and allow for establishing permanent bases of mutual trust, peaceful coexistence, mutual respect, and cooperation among the Central American nations.

The presidents also agreed to reiterate that the solution can only be found as long as there is no foreign interference that may delay the conclusion of the peace process propitiated by the Contadora Group. They called on the nations with links and interests in the Central American area to abstain from making statements or taking actions that may hinder the culmination of the peace efforts. On the other hand, they were grateful for the support offered to the Central American countries and the Contadora Group by the international community and organizations, and exhorted them to double their efforts and cooperation so that the desired peace may soon be achieved.

Both heads of state praised the cooperation in the border area where binational projects and programs are under way aimed to integrate the development of the region, demonstrating the spirit, fraternity, and cooperation that moves the peoples of the two states. In that respect, they evaluated the agreement signed between, the two countries for border cooperation, giving special attention to the advances in the different joint projects and programs under way in that regard. They voiced their satisfaction over the success achieved and considered it convenient to expand such programs in order to jointly develop other activities beneficial to both peoples, particularly along the borders.

Both presidents examined the reports on the achievements made in the different activities of the Border Cooperation Agreement, such as the electricity network project which is to be completed this year. On road projects, they viewed the construction and improvement of roads connecting the populated centers of both countries. In the agricultural and livestock sector, they were pleased to note the progress made in animal sanitation. They also evaluated the efforts made in the fields of health and education. In this context, both heads of state expressed their desire to establish joint border development programs, and approved a work program stressing activities in the different sectors.

For the agricultural and livestock sector, they agreed to put into operation the signed agreements between the respective ministries, back them institutionally, draft a work schedule, and formalize a program aimed to meet the problem of animal sanitation, as well as the apicultural, through training and control systems. In addition, the two ministries agreed to support the marketing of the production surpluses in some seasons of the year in both countries, and reiterated the support provided for within the Friendship Park Agreement.

On the issue of training professionals, the presidents were satisfied with the close relations of cooperation existing between the National Apprenticeship Institute of Costa Rica and the National Institute for Professional Training of Panama, and reaffirmed their support for the execution of several specific programs and projects derived from the technical cooperation agreement signed by the two entities. In addition, the president of Panama voiced his support for the efforts of the Costa Rican Government to establish a technical institute to support the professional training in San Jose that would function at a regional level.

The presidents expressed their satisfaction over the excellent commercial relations maintained by the two countries through the years, and reaffirmed their firm determination to strengthen them even more. In this respect, they instructed their ministers in the appropriate portfolios to explore new ways of exchange and cooperation through the creation of a program, for immediate execution, which pays special attention to the promotion of commercial exchange in general, to the revision and modernization of the Treaty on Free Trade and Preferential Exchange, to the solution of cargo transportation problems, and to the search for other areas of cooperation that may strengthen mutual relations within the broadest spirit of equity. Both countries will also begin programs of cooperation and assistance intended to eliminate the contraband of merchandise in the border area.

The heads of state expressed their satisfaction regarding the progress achieved in health matters in the border area of the two countries. They reiterated the need to work jointly for the benefit of their communities through the implementation of the existing agreements, to offer integrated health care, emphasizing the preventive and assistance aspects.

Regarding the transportation sector, the two heads of government agreed to instruct the ministries of public works of both countries to prepare and implement projects to improve the road network in the border area, modernize the road maps of the border area, create a binational commission to prepare a program for the transportation sector, and study the feasibility of chartering a "ferry" in Bocas del Toro Province.

The heads of state concurred on the need to promote activities in the community development sector, to revamp the technical cooperation agreement on strengthening the ties between the General Directorate for Community Development of Panama and the National Directorate for Community Development of Costa Rica, to continue with the programs for border municipal development in the Panama-Costa Rica border area that were prepared in 1981.

Finally, the presidents expressed their interest in developing joint activities in tourism, urban development in the border region, agroindustrial activities, mining and matters related to educational and cultural exchange.

To follow up the programs and projects to be developed in the border cooperation agreement. The presidents decided to hold evaluation meetings every 6 months to be coordinated by the respective planning ministries. At the same time they exhorted international financial organizations and cooperation agencies to help finance the programs and projects intended to improve the border area of the two countries.

The president of Costa Rica renewed his support for the government and people of Panama in their just demands for full compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the product of a Panamanian generational struggle to recover the country principal natural resource. He praised the progress made by the Republic of Panama in the execution of these treaties, called for absolute respect for the permanent neutrality status of the Panama Canal, and called on the international community to sign the protocol of the Panama Canal Neutrality Treaty.

The president of Costa Rica noted that the importance of the talks with the president of Panama, and thanked the Government of Panama for the attention and deferences extended to him and his retinue during their visit. He reiterated the invitation to the president of Panama to visit Costa Rica at a time to be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

Signed in David, Republic of Panama, on the 19 March 1985

Luis Alberto Monge, president of the Republic of Costa Rica

Nicolas Ardito Barletta, president of the Republic of Panama

GENERAL NORIEGA RETURNS FROM FOREIGN TOUR

PA221635 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 22 Mar 85 p A 4

[From "Names and Facts" column]

[Excerpt] After a tour through the United States and Europe, General Manuel Antonio Noriega has made an inconspicuous arrival in Panama and resumed his duties as commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces. The lecture he delivered at Harvard University continues to receive favorable comment in the United States.

Discusses Budget Cut

PA230439 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] The chief of the Defense Forces, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, said that despite the budget cut that organization will continue striving to preserve peace in the country, which certainly will benefit our economy. A recorded interview with General Noriega follows:

[Begin recording] [Noriega] The nation's economic problems, which are part of the current overall Latin American problem, are the responsibility of the economists and other experts in that field in our democracies.

[Question] How do you view the first 100 days of government of President Nicolas Ardito Barletta?

[Noriega] Well, that question should be directed to the people.

[Question] What will be the role of the Defence Forces in maintaining peace that is so desired by many Central American countries?

[Noriega] Our development and work plan is earmarked within our relations with the communities and with all groups that participate in national activities to benefit those communities, particularly those in remote areas that receive less support from the central government. We will do this within our possibilities, knowing that we have men who work 24 hours a day without a labor code.

[Question] What is the Defense Forces' budget for 1985 and what areas will it strengthen?

[Noriega] Our budget was also cut, but we will continue our organization's development. That development cannot be interrupted because it has a goal, as it is up to its future generations to answer the historic challenge. It would be negligent on our part not to prepare for that future. [end recording]

BELIZE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS SET FOR 27 MARCH

FL221558 Bridgetown CANA in English 2219 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, March 21, CANA -- Belizeans will vote next Wednesday in local government elections which will be a straight fight between the ruling United Democratic Party (UDP) and the main opposition People's United Party (PUP).

The UDP has presented a full slate of 53 candidates to contest seats on the Belize City Council and the country's seven townships. The four seats on the Belize City Council became vacant in December after holders were elected to serve in parliament in general elections which produced a landslide win for the UDP.

The PUP, defeated after 20 years in power, has announced candidates for six of the seven town boards. PUP candidates see the elections as a chance to improve the party's image after the beating the PUP received in the general election.

COSTA RICA

DEPUTY SAYS DEBT PROBLEMS WITH MEXICO EASE

FL231910 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1735 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Excerpts] San Jose, Costa Rica, 23 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rican Deputy Finance Minister Rodrigo Bolanos said today that Mexico has always shown its understanding of Costa Rica's payment problems, and that the country now finds itself in better circumstances to meet its debt with Mexico. Bolanos told NOTIMEX that after the accord Costa Rica signed last week with the IMF, the country will be able to repay its service debt for the entire foreign debt, which would come to $5 billion at the end of the year, according to the finance ministry's portfolio.

Repayment obligations with Mexico come to $92 million Finance Minister Porfirio Morera Batres said weeks ago. He will be meeting with Mexican counterpart Jesus Silva Herzog at an Inter-American Development Bank meeting in Vienna, Austria.

Bolanos announced that in April a Costa Rican Government delegation will travel to Mexico to continue negotiations seeking to obtain better repayment conditions.

GOVERNMENT RESTRICTS CENTRAL AMERICA IMMIGRATION

FL251740 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1615 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Excerpt] San Jose, 25 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The Costa Rican Government has begun restricting admission of Central American refugees into national territory because of an increase in the immigratory flow, officials announced.

Director of the National Refugee Commission (Conapare) Hilda Porras said the image, that this country may serve as a heavenly refuge for any person, must be eliminated. She explained that a maximum reduction of visas for Central American immigrants has already begun, but acknowledged that a massive influx is continuing through diverse underground means.

Even though only 20,000 immigrants are registered as refugees, it is believed that a more realistic figure wouldbe more than 200,000.

BRIEFS

SECURITY MINISTRY RESTRUCTURED -- Public Security Minister Benjamin Piza Carranza announced that he has restructured the ministry. Three hundred volunteers who are members of the police reserves were incorporated into the force, mainly to work with the Civil Guard and the Security Ministry and to expand coordination between the various offices within the ministry. The police reserves will be under the Police General Directorate headed by Colonel Oscar Vidal. Seven people, including civilians and policemen, make up the general staff of this group. They are: Manuel Ventura, Alvaro Arias, Guillermo Salazar, and Colonels Alvaro Sanchez Monestel, Enrique Marten, and Rafael Peralta. [Summary] [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 6 Mar 85 p 10 A PA]

EL SALVADOR

COL OCHOA DENIES FMLN OCCUPIES NORTHERN TOWNS

PA252029 Paris AFP in Spanish 2030 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Mar (AFP) -- Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa, commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade, said today that his troops continue harassing the guerrillas, who have had to flee to the region bordering Honduras.

Col Ochoa denied FMLN reports proclaiming the occupation of several municipalities in the northern Chalatenango Department, where the 4th Brigade operates. Col Ochoa said "those reports are totally false," and denied that the FMLN guerrillas had commemorated the fifth anniversary of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero's death with the occupation of La Reina and other towns. "It is true that they passed by La Reina, but this was as they fled toward the west," Col Ochoa said sarcastically, adding that his troops are working in coordination with the brigade in Santa Ana in order to prevent the rebels from taking refuge in that department. However, Col Ochoa admitted that there was heavy fighting in Ojos de Agua, east of Chalatenango where, according to him, 2 soldiers and 10 guerrillas were killed.

Col Ochoa said that peace will be maintained in Chalatenango Department during next Sunday's legislative and municipal elections. He added that 6 of the 33 municipalities in the province will not have elections, "because they practically have no inhabitants."

GUERRILLAS REPORT KILLING OF GENERAL MEDRANO

PA240238 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] Attention, people of El Salvador. This Saturday is a day to remember. At noon today, Saturday, archcriminal General Jose Alberto Medrano, better known as Cholo Medrano, responsible for scores of crimes against our people, was shot to death. His long, repressive, and bloody career as one of the most hated executioners of the working people was cut short this Saturday in Colonia Zacamil, a suburb of San Salvador. Jose Alberto Medrano was, among other things, chief of Section 2 of the National Police; director of the National Guard; founder of the criminal band known as the Nationalist Democratic Association, ORDEN; founder of the National Security Agency of El Salvador; leader and founder of the death squads known as White Warriors Union, UGB; Salvadoran White Hand, MBS; Organization for the Liberation from Communism, OLC; and others.

Cholo Medrano led many repressive actions against our people, massacred demonstrators, murdered selectively, and designed methods of torture. He personally tortured scores of workers, students, revolutionary leaders, and peasants in the clandestine jails of the repressive bodies. Medrano was also the mentor of criminals such as Roberto D'Aubuisson, Chato Castillo, Nicolas Carranza, and others. The people's justice is slow, but it never forgets. This Saturday at noon, the criminal Gen Jose Alberto Medrano was shot to death in the Colonia Zacamil of San Salvador. He was one of the most hated executioners of our people. Not a single executioner shall escape the justice of the people.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA TO ATTEND SUMMIT, ADVOCATES PEACE EFFORTS

PA260259 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 23 Mar 85 p 7

[Text] Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores yesterday gave his support to and announced his decision to participate in the Central American presidents' summit meeting, scheduled for November in San Jose, Costa Rica. I reassert my offer to hold the meeting in Guatemala; however, if the offer is not accepted by the Central American governments, it will not necessarily imply that I will not attend and actively participate in the search for solutions to the Central American problems that are currently convulsing the area, he said.

Referring to the topic of Belize and the failure of talks with Great Britain, the head of state said that the claims are still in effect, because that territory belongs to Guatemala. We maintain our claim because this territory belongs to us and the situation will remain the same until we see a favorable atmosphere to continue the negotiations, he said.

MEJIA PLANS TO CALL ELECTIONS, VISIT VATICAN

PA260238 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 23 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] Head of State General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores has asserted that he is the only one who can issue a call for general elections. He stated categorically: "I will issue a call for elections, because there is no other legal mechanism to do so." His statement was issued during the inauguration of Embotelladora Central, S.A., a soft drink bottling plant, yesterday morning. He was there as a special guest, along with several of his cabinet members. With this statement Gen Mejia Victores dispels any possible actions aimed at issuing a legal call for elections, which have been initially scheduled for 26 October.

Referring to the trip that he will soon make to Europe, Mejia Victores said that he will visit only the Vatican, where he will hold a special meeting with Pope John Paul II to reciprocate the Holy Father's visit in March 1983.

FRIGATE USS TALBOT ARRIVES IN PUERTO QUETZAL

PA260210 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 23 Mar 85 p 3

[Excerpt] Puerto Quetzal, Escuintla, 22 Mar -- The frigate USS Talbot, of the U.S. Navy's Ahlantic Fleet, arrived today, Friday, at this Guatemalan port 110 km from the country's capital, in what has been described as a goodwill mission.

CUS COMMENTS ON ASSEMBLY ACTIONS, CONSTITUTION

PA250416 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Paid advertisement by the Confederation for Trade Union Unity of Guatemala, CUS]

[Text] The CUS expresses its opinion, to the national and international public and particularly to the Guatemalan working class, concerning the work of the National Constituent Assembly deputies as follows:

1. CUS has always been aware of the fact that we are to have a new constitution that will legally govern Guatemalan society. It is also aware that this constitution will be drafted whether the workers participate or not. In view of this, CUS decided to participate in July 1984 and held several meetings with different labor leaders, culminating in a request to the National Constituent Assembly which was delivered to its president on 5 September 1984. What this means is that our work is not a charade, since we have been rallying for 9 months for constitutional provisions to protect the nation's workers. In this difficult task, we have taken into account the needs of all workers -- salaried and independent, blue and white collar, urban and rural, private and public, and CUS affiliated and independent. We have given priority to such aspects as land for the peasants and providing them with necessary technical assistance, credit, and marketing facilities. We seek equal rights for public and private sector workers, aware that existing discrimination is unjust and detrimental to the nation's development, because wherever there is an unsatisfied, discriminated, or forsaken Guatemalan, conditions are present for an unjust and antidemocratic society. We want the proper provisions on the right to organize and to strike. We are trying to correct through the constitution the negative judicial process. There are many other subjects we want to address, but we are aware of the limitations of a constitution, that has been proven unable to regulate the unjust nature of our laws.

2. Thus far, we have been partially successful in achieving, as a fundamental issue, the right of workers to organize and to strike. We have not been able, however, to clear the obstruction of management through the labor courts, which actually nullifies that right by its refusal to integrate the conciliation courts, forcing the workers to resort to strikes. Neither were we able to solve the slowness of the judiciary; workers will have to continue enduring long drawn out trials to collect compensation. We must, however, recognize the efforts of some deputies to reduce this procedure, by imposing monetary fines and thus reducing the possibility of unfair attitudes in the process. We say to those concerned over the public workers' right to strike that, since it is regulated, it is not an absolute right that can be used at anytime; private and public workers will continue having the same limitations on striking as in the past. However, it is fair to say that we have made some progress through the approval of such articles as 40, 62, 86, 69, 78, and 99 in the new constitution, which refer to protection of the land and farm cooperatives, art, folklore, and traditional crafts, land for native communities; transfer of workers; obligations of the owners to establish schools, nurseries, and cultural centers for the workers; and the recovery of [word indistinct]. Those articles represent improved workers rights.

3. CUS is aware that we have not solved the serious economic and social problems affecting the workers; but it is also aware that great work has been accomplished to help build a more just and human society. This work, coordinated by CUS, has been supported by deputies of various parties, who should be recognized for their "noblesse oblige." They are: Catalina Soberani, Oliverio Garcia Rodas, Carlos Gonzalez Estrada, Roberto Valles Baldizon, Ramiro de Leon Carpio, Alfonso Alonso, Edgar Juviel Lemus, Jorge Skinner, Rafael Arriaga Martinez, Victor Hugo Godoy, and Carlos Escudero, as well as those deputies who voted in favor of the advances achieved.

We admit that many workers believe that we did not achieve much. However, more important steps were taken then in the Constitution of the 1945 reformist regime.

In view of the above, CUS declares that the achieved constitutional advances constitute not only a benefit to the confederated workers, and CUS, but to all Guatemalan workers. In that respect, it reiterates an appeal for the unity of the workers, realizing that labor efforts are intended to obtain better rights, better working and living conditions, better treatment in labor relations, and particularly, a more just society recognizing the people's right to participate. This requires constant work, which cannot be achieved only through a constitution.

We must set our sights on the future and work constantly to organize and educate our fellow workers, express our needs, and point out that the exploitation of the workers cannot lead to the construction of a society in which we may live in peace. It will not eradicate misery -- which we insist upon as united workers -- so that we may all enjoy an honorable life.

For the right to organize and for the respect of the human rights of Guatemalan workers.

Guatemala, March

[Signed] Confederation for Trade Union Unity of Guatemala.

NICARAGUA

EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE OFFERS TO MEDIATE PEACE TALKS

PA251724 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 23-24 Mar 85 p 1

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference in Managua on 22 March]

[Text] The bishops of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference after holding a regular meeting at our Episcopal House in Managua to meditate, in light of the gospel, on the painful current situation in Nicaragua, wish to inform our faithful people and all men of goodwill of the following:

1. Bishops feel as our own the pain and suffering of all Nicaraguans, without any exceptions.

2. While we pray to our Lord Jesus Christ and to His Holy Mother for our brothers in the countryside and in the cities, we would like to cooperate, on the basis of our pastoral mission as conciliators, in seeking solutions to put an end to so much pain and so many tears.

3. It should be understood that this line of pastoral concern should include all our meetings or talks, be it with the Nicaraguan Government, or with any other person or organized sector in Nicaragua.

4. We feel that under the current circumstances, everything stated in our pastoral letter of 22 April 1984 is still valid, particularly in relation to the dialogue as the path toward conciliation.

5. Under the conviction that violence will never solve a problem from its roots, we express our willingness to mediate in an internal dialogue, as long as the following points are clear:

A. The church cannot impose a dialogue.

B. A dialogue must be accpeted by both sides.

c. Our stance must not be interpreted as a political position in favor of a specific party or ideology.

We urge Catholic Church members to work hard at becoming promoters of peace and conciliation in their homes, and we urge our brothers suffering in one way or the other to share their pain with Jesus Christ, in order to obtain forgiveness and achieve harmony among Nicaraguans.

Managua, 22 March

Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference

Signed by: Msgr Bosco Vivas Robelo, Managua's auxiliary bishop and secretary of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference

Comment on Offer

PA251440 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The bishops comprising the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua issued a communique yesterday in which they agreed to act as mediators in an alleged national dialogue that counterrevolutionary groups based in Costa Rica, Honduras, and the United States have been demanding from the legitimately constitutional Nicaraguan Government. The Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference says it shares, without distinction, the suffering of all those who have become involved in violence -- while they pray to Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary for their brothers in the countryside and the cities -- and it wants to help and act as conciliator in the search for an end to so much bloodshed and so many tears. These bishops acknowledged that the dialogue cannot be imposed on anyone; it must be an expression of the two parties' will. They warn that their position must not be misinterpreted as support for any ideological leaning. They only wish to achieve harmony among the Nicaraguan people.

Political observers have asserted that this message from the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference somehow seeks to legitimize the bands of counterrevolutionary criminals and mercenaries who have been repudiated and condemned by the Honduran and Costa Rican people because they are operating in their territories near our country's borders. In addition, it was stressed that our revolutionary government has never expressed the desire to hold a dialogue with the leaders of the mercenary bands, which assassinate our people in the countryside. The Catholic leadership thinks they are merely groups up in arms and Reagan believes that they are his champions of freedom.

The dialogue has also been requested by the political groups comprising the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board, which refer to an alleged ultimatum that the counterrevolutionary leaders have given to the revolutionary government -- as if they had any moral right or support from the people to justify such a position. So far, neither our government nor the FSLN vanguard, the National Directorate, has issued an official statement regarding the Episcopal Conference's decision. Our government does remain open to any dialogue with the U.S. Government, which is really the one directing and supporting the contra activities in Nicaragua. Our government also advocates the Contadora Group's peace efforts and the efforts of any other serious, internationally recognized organization. It is appropriate to recall that as a requisite for holding the dialogue, the contra leaders demand that the government dissolve the National Assembly and the Sandinist Defense Committees, CDS; reduce the size of the Sandinist People's Army, EPS; eliminate the Interior Ministry; and hold new elections. In other words, they fail to recognize President Daniel Ortega Saavedra's government. Someone must tell them to act more seriously and judiciously.

MINISTER ACCUSES U.S. OF 'ISOLATING' COUNTRY

PA251617 Paris AFP in Spanish 2011 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Managua, 23 Mar (AFP) -- Nicaraguan Finance Minister William Hupper today accused the Reagan administration of trying to "isolate" Nicaragua from any trade deals in U.S. markets. In remarks to a group of sales and marketing executives, Hupper also stressed that the U.S. attitude "is part of a plan to further hurt the Nicaraguan economy." Hupper maintained that the U.S. Government continues to exert pressure on the IDB to block a $58.4 million credit agreement. "A policy is in effect that is aimed not only at blocking us financially, but at expelling us from the U.S. market, which has been a natural market for the countries of the Latin American region," he warned.

In 1981, the United States froze the credits for the Sandinist government for the purchase of wheat and blocked World Bank loans to that country. The World Bank has not given any financial assistance to that Central American country since 1982.

At the same time, Nicaragua was subjected to a drastic reduction in its sugar export quota to the U.S. market. According to Hupper, in addition to sugar, Nicaragua found in the United States the best prices for the sale of sea products and meat. The official recalled that during 1980, Nicaragua placed 33 percent of its exports and acquired 27 percent of its imports in the U.S. market. However, he added, 4 years later, the U.S. purchases decreased to 5 percent, while the Nicaraguan imports amounted to 16 percent.

In addition, Hupper said that 1985 is the most "difficult" economic year that the Sandinist revolution has faced in its almost 6 years of existence. He noted that the problem is getting worse because of the limitations of the CACM.

Hupper also pointed out that the "aggression" has resulted in losses for Nicaragua which surpass $1.5 billion because of the destruction of infrastructure projects. The war will also cause another $100 million in "indirect losses" this year. Furthermore, Hupper noted that the guidelines of the new economic plan of the Sandinist government include freezing 3,000 jobs in the state apparatus and for this reason, it is studying the transfer of these personnel to production areas.

FSLN'S TIRADO ADDRESSES 900 UNION LEADERS

PA252233 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] At the close of the meeting of the fourth assembly of the Leonel Rugama unions in Managua yesterday, more than 900 Nicaraguan union leaders promised to continue working to improve labor discipline and decrease absences.

The meeting, held at the Ramirez Goyena Institute, was attended by Commanders of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock, minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform, and Victor Tirado, member of the FSLN National Directorate, Guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez, and leaders of the Heroes and Martyrs Confederation of Nicaraguan Professional Associations, the Union of Nicaraguan Journalists, the Farm Workers Association, the Sandinist Central Organization of Workers, the National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers, the Health Workers Federation, and the National Employees Union.

In his speech, Commander Tirado Lopex praised the heroic efforts of the country's workers and peasants who have exhibited patriotism in the face of the difficulties imposed by the Reagan administration. He said that the U.S. Government is involved in diplomatic actions against Nicaragua such as breaking diplomatic ties and ignoring and breaking with the Contadora Group.

The economic measures implemented are revolutionary and defend the people's survival, Tirado Lopez said. He noted that, with the workers' enthusiastic cooperation, we will win both the war and peace despite the aggressions directed from the White House.

[Begin recording] Nicaragua is not at war with the United States. It does not want a confrontation with that imperialist power. It is the United States which has delcared war on us; it is the United States that has declared war on Nicaragua. It is the United States that chose the path of confrontation. Nicaragua advocates peace, dialogue, the talks in Manzanillo and the Contadora Group's efforts. Our revolution does not want war but rather understanding at the negotiations table. However, we want to reach an agreement without sacrificing our principles. We want a [word indistinct] agreement not an unconditional surrender, which is what the U.S. Government wants.

The U.S. Government is also considering other measures against Nicaragua. They are not economic but diplomatic measures. It is insinuating that it may break relations with Nicaragua. It is beginning to show that it is seriously studying the possibility of breaking with the Contadora Group. In other words, it is planning to announce that it will not support Contadora's vast efforts for peace.

This is what is called seeing around the U.S. Government policy. The proposal to ignore the Contadora Group, which was made by Congressman Claude Pepper of Florida, is, according to THE NEW YORK POST, being studied by the U.S. delegation to the OAS.

This is the situation and the new problems which we are facing. To this situation we must [words indistinct] against U.S. imperialism and we must interpret all the new economic measures within this context. They should not only be interpreted from the economic point of view but from the political and social point of view. For this reason, this assembly has made a positive evaluation of the compliance of the resolutions approved during the fourth meeting of the Leonel Rugama unions. You discussed the economic measures announced by the revolutionary government recently and you approved, according to the document read by [name indistinct] Garcia, the task ahead of the unions to face the country's difficult economic situation.

Regarding all this, we must constantly repeat, so it is understood well, and so we do not lose sight of our immediate strategy and outlook, that the economic measures approved by the revolutionary government are aimed at strengthening the revolution's military defense. They are aimed at allowing us to survive in the difficult and complex conditions imposed by the imperialist aggression. [end recording]

MISURASATA'S RIVERA ON UPCOMING TALKS IN BOGOTA

PA251515 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] The third meeting between the representatives of the Indian organization Miskito, Sumu and Rama Sandinist Unity [Misurasata], led by Brooklyn Rivera and representatives of the Nicaraguan revolutionary government, led by Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz, will be held in Bogota on Tuesday.

Rivera and his delegation are already in Bogota and last night they told journalists that there is a possibility of reaching a peace agreement with the Sandinist government as long as the rights of Nicaragua's ethnic groups are respected. Reports from Colombia indicate that the meeting had been slated for this weekend but it was changed to Tuesday at the request of the Managua authorities. The meeting will last 2 days. This series of talks between the Nicaraguan Government and Misurasata to search for a peace agreement is being sponsored by President Belisario Betancur. Latin American and European diplomats are attending the meetings as observers.

CONTRAS REPORTEDLY ATTACK HONDURAN TERRITORY

PA261639 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] Nicaraguan Francisco Antonio Maldonado was killed and two Honduran citizens were wounded during an alleged attack by Sandinist troops on the area of (La Lodosa) in Honduran territory. After walking for several days, a witness to the action, a Honduran peasant named Angel Salgado, arrived in Tegucigalpa to charge that the Sandinist People's Army had staged an artillery attack due to the constant presence of counterrevolutionaries in (La Lodosa). The witness explained that the contras maintain warehouses filled with weapons and explosives in that sector. Meanwhile, the leaders of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN], and some Honduran officials keep denying that the contra groups use Honduran territory for their operations.

Lieutenant Colonel Guillermo Pinel, director of the Honduran secret police, has denied the accusations made in Managua in the middle of the week by Norma Corrales, a deserter of the FDN ranks, who has accepted the amnesty offered by the Nicaraguan Government. Norma Corrales told journalists that there are direct links between the Honduran secret police and the counterrevolutionary leaders who hold consultations in everything. She said that she was held in a security house in San Marco de Colon where she was tortured and raped along with other women. She said that youths who are recruited and refuse to fight with the contras are killed. She is part of a group of members of a task force led by Jose Efrain Martinez Mondragon who took asylum in the Mexican Embassy in Tegucigalpa. However, Martinez Mondragon has been prevented from leaving Honduras. There is fear for his life because of what he knows, he might be killed by the contras, the Honduran secret police, or CIA agents.

Lt Col Guillermo Pinel has said that no soldiers or officers have participated in providing support or advising the Nicaraguan contras.

CARLOS NUNEZ LEAVES FOR HUNGARIAN CONGRESS

PA241641 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Mar 85 p 8

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the National Assembly; Deputy Commander Serafin Garcia; and an International Relations official left for Hungary yestereday to participate in the celebration of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party congress. In addition to representing the FSLN at the congress, Commander Nunez told BARRICADA that the visit will make it possible "to materialize more significantly the political, economic, and moral solidarity of the Hungarian people, their government and party, at a time when Nicaragua is suffering a terrible aggression."

Commander Nunez was seen off at Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport by Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz; De Clemente Guido, vice president of the National Assembly; Luis Sanchez, of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party; and other parliamentarians.

HOUSING MINISTER ON RELOCATION OF PEASANTS

PA230247 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] The Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements, Minvah, only exists to serve the people, Housing Minister Miguel Ernesto Vigil said today at the inauguration of a seminar on urban development for approximately 70 officials from the ministry. Vigil stressed the importance of this event, and urged the participants to be as receptive as possible so that they can later apply the knowledge acquired in their departments. He also referred to the revolutionary government's great responsibility in relocating thousands of war victims and said that it falls to Minvah to provide these people with the proper housing. In view of this, he said, I call on technicians in all regions to voluntarily cooperate with the delegations in Regions 1 and 6 in order to rapidly solve these needs.

[Begin Vigil recording] Your are probably already informed because this information has already been reported in the newspapers, on radio, and television, and our leaders have referred to it. It involves the fastest solutions possible for the housing problems of several thousand Nicaraguan peasant families in Regions 1 and 6. These families have been forced to abandon their homes because of the vicious actions perpetrated by the terrorist counterrevolutionary mercenacy groups financed by the U.S. government through the CIA at the instructions of President Reagan.

These peasant companeros are being murdered, tortured, raped, and robbed in the midst of their communities, and they are leaving the combat zones and settling in safer places. The revolutionary government, which has always known how to face these problems with positive and effective solutions, has decided that we must help these companeros. It is a global problem. They must be relocated to the most productive areas we can find in the safest sectors of Regions 1 and 6. We will provide them with the means to make their lands reproduce, whether individually or in credit and (?service) cooperatives, in Sandinist agricultural cooperatives, or they can be incorporated into the production system within state production units as laborers. This can be done in many ways and in the manner that best fits the desires, interests, and idiosyncrasies of each of the peasant families.

This solution will be accompanied by a series of services which the state will also provide. Transportation systems will be improved, the distribution not only of basic products but also of other products used by the peasants will be improved, health services as well as education services will improve. The peasants are already being provided welfare services and they will be provided housing. Within the responsibilities assigned to us is the preparation of a series of settlements in Regions 1 and 6; fortunately, the ministry's regional offices are capable of fulfilling this mission. Of course, we are supporting them from the central office, but they need more technical resources to strengthen their regional delegations.

We are carrying out a campaign here that we initiated last week with the companeros from the [word indistinct] and we are continuing to urge everyone to volunteer to participate in our projects in Regions 1 and 6. The regional delegates, Compenero Cesar (Marquex) from Region 1 and Companero (Edgar Vega) from Region 6 will be responsible for guiding the ministry and the ministry's firms. [end recording]

Welfare Minister Comments

PA231755 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Reinaldo Antonio Tefel, minister director of the Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute, said today that at the rate of the aggression that our country is suffering, by the end of the year, approximately 200,000 peasants will have been displaced from the war zones. Tefel bade farewell to 80 workers of the institute who are leaving for the relocation centers in Regions 1 and 6 where they will help in various projects. Reinaldo Antonio Tefel explained the reasons for the displacement of the peasants:

[Begin recording] These merciless, terrorist and [word indistinct] attacks by the U.S. Government, especially in northern Nicaragua, have caused a number of deaths, [words indistinct] cooperatives destroyed. The civilian population has greatly suffered because as a result of the terrorist tactics that the CIA has taught the contras, the attacks are not against military objectives, but against the civilian population. Because of this, a good part of the population in the north has had to move to safer locations. Some of them are fleeing from counterrevolution, others are afraid of the war, and others have to be evacuated by the Army because there is constant fighting in their areas. [end recording]

BAYARDO ARCE ADDRESSES SANDINIST YOUTH ASSEMBLY

PA251512 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano, coordinator of the FSLN Political Committee, has again reaffirmed the confidence that the revolutionary leadership has placed in the 19 July Sandinist Youth. He made this statement last night at the closing session of the national assembly of leaders of the Carlos Aguero workers sector of the youth organization. Addressing more than 200 political secretaries of the 19 July Sandinist Youth from the country's various work centers and institutions, Commander Arce stressed the work carried out by heroic Nicaraguan youth, a considerable force that was not correctly used in the past.

[Begin recording] At this point everyone must review their past actions and seek the means to improve the work and the efforts. We believe this assembly is very important for this purpose. We think we are opening a new path, a new force that will put the FSLN in motion in the work centers, make the unions more dynamic, and revolutionize everything. This is the work we expect from the Sandinist youth in the working class. We want you to activate and stir up everything so that all of the revolution's human forces in the labor sector will be encouraged by the renewed strength of the youth and emerge as a single fist to defeat the imperialist aggression in the trenches of production and in all fields. [end recording]

The Sandinist leader also urged strengthening the ranks of the youth organization and closer ties with the FSLN organizations and the unions in the enterprises where they work. Regarding how Nicaraguans should defeat aggression, Commander Arce said:

[Begin recording] What Nicaragua is currently experiencing is the most complex situation that we have ever faced in the almost 6 years of revolution. The material possibilities for confronting these problems are practically exhausted. The only wealth that the revolution has is the human capacity to resolve the effects of the aggression. This must be clear because as the members of the National Directorate said on 8 February: If we made a serious mistake it was trying to do too many things in favor of our people in view of the country's limited resources.

This was the situation we were trying to maintain until last year.

Despite the fact that we were confronting aggression by the largest world power and that every day this aggression is causing heavy damages -- some of it irreversible -- to the development of the material base of our society, we were committing the mistake of making efforts so that the effects of the aggression would not fall on all Nicaraguans. This was creating a (?dual) and complex situation because while Nicaraguans in one part of the country were the victims of terrorism, assassination, and destruction, and were risking their lives to defend sovereignty, the homeland, and the revolution, in another part of the country Nicaraguans were living as if none of those things were happening and were increasingly demanding more material resources, without even thinking that the difficulties with the natural and material resources are linked to the situation of aggression that our country is experiencing. [end recording]

COSEP LEADER AVILES CRITICIZES NEW TAX LAWS

PA211936 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Mar 85 p 12

[Text] Juan Ramon Aviles, executive secretary of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, COSEP, has told LA PRENSA that the newly enacted taxes will not solve the government's fiscal crisis and will mainly affect the masses.

Regarding the capital gains tax, Aviles said that this is a tax on the increase in the prices of goods resulting from the current, spiraling inflation. This law, he added, punishes the property owners, who are not to blame for the growing inflation.

A second characteristic of this law, which makes it even more harmful, is that it is retroactive because it goes back to the prices of goods as of June 30, 1979. This is serious, he noted, because it will decapitalize those who own property and even more so the firms that are operating at half capacity and are suffering from the lack of foreign exchange. In addition to this, Aviles predicted that the law will further discourage the already limited number of investors because they will abstain even more from investing and creating new sources of employment. The private sector feels that instead of these reforms a better administration of already existing taxes and rational use of public spending to reduce the fiscal deficit would bring better overall economic results than those sought by the government through these taxes.

The value added tax, Aviles noted, taxes the transfer of goods and services or the enjoyment thereof. In other words, this tax will be paid by consumers, who are already paying higher prices and will now have to pay higher taxes on the purchases they make.

In addition to its burdensome characteristic of forcing taxpayers to keep their financial documentation of the previous 10 years, the law has not taken into account the losses suffered by industrialists in the manufacturing sector. An example of this is the waste of leather and fabrics in small shoemakers' and sewing shops.

The selective consumption tax is levied on the imports and sales of domestic-made products. This tax will also be paid by the masses because some of the most affected products are shoes, coffee, plastic tableware, and so forth. Aviles noted that this law did not increase much for the importers because of the logical drop in imports. [as published]

In addition, he noted, it established new taxes on soups and baby food, and reduced those on products not used by masses, like caviar, salmon, and cod.

The powers attributed to itself by the Finance Ministry to reduce, reimburse, increase, exempt, establish, and reestablish tariffs through ministerial resolution are substantial. This provision passes over the National Assembly, which according to worldwide legislative practice, is the only branch empowered to enact taxes as it represents the people. The private sector feels that these powers are very dangerous. They enable the state to take over, through fiscal manipulation, the enterprises which are still in the hands of the private sector.

Regarding the law on presumed income [renta presuntiva], Aviles said that there was no reason to enact it because its provisions were already embodied in the income tax law. What this law has done is to expand legal provisions expressly to include as taxpayers the people working in service industries, such as waiters, and to more carefully regulate those in the professions.

Concerning the law increasing personal exemption from 60 to 100,000 cordovas, it is a mockery of wage earners because they are the most punctual payers of this tax. Five months ago anyone earning 5,000 a month or 60,000 cordovas a year was exempt from this tax and was so classified at the Labor Ministry. Now, the income of all those who paid 60,000 cordovas a year has increased to 109,200 a year. [sentence as published] In other words, according to the amendments they will have to pay taxes now. The exemption was less than the increase in the cost of living recognized by the government.

Nicaragua's problem is a tremendous lack of productivity. It has been affected not only by the state of war but by the economic situation implemented by the government. The government is not investing enough and is discouraging private investors, who have no guarantees under uncertain rules of the game.

NUNEZ TELLEZ CONFIRMED AS HEAD OF IPU GROUP

PA221509 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] The National Assembly plenum today confirmed the president of this legislative body, Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez, as head of the Nicaraguan IPU delegation. Commander Nunez heads the board of directors of the National Assembly, which belongs to the world parliamentary organization. Commander Nunez' position had been approved in 1981 by the State Council at an ordinary session on 17 June of that same year.

Meanwhile, also elected today were Nicaragua's members to the four special commissions of the IPU. Elected to the Commission for Political Affairs, International Security, and Disarmament were Companeros Danilo Aguirre Soliz and as his alternate Rogelio Ramirez Mercado. Elected to the Commission for Legal Parliamentary Affairs and Human Rights were Doctors Rafael Cordova Rivas and Eduardo Molina Palacios, both members of the Conservative Party. Elected to the Commission for Economic, Social, Cultural, and Environmental Affairs were Domingo Sanchez from the Socialist Party and Gerardo Alfaro from the Conservative Party. Meanwhile, unanimously elected to the Commission for Autonomous Territories and Ethnic Affairs were Ray Hoocker and Sixto Ulloa. Elected as treasurer of the national group at the special session was Juan Tijerino, and [4-second break in transmission] FSLN, and Cesar Augusto Castillo of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua.

ANTI-SANDINISTS SAY FDN COMMITS 'GREAT WRONGS'

FL221902 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Managua, Nicaragua, 22 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The seven anti-Sandinists who sought refuge at the Mexican Embassy in Tegucigalpa have said here that the Revolutionary Democratic Force (FDN) had committed great wrongs against the Nicaraguan people. At a press conference given by the Nicaraguans, who last Tuesday claimed amnesty, they added that they were concerned for the life of their companion Jose Efrain Mondragon, who is still under the protection of the Mexican Embassy in Tegucigalpa. They said yesterday that armed members of the FDN and Honduran security forces had stationed themselves in the area near the embassy.

MISURASATA SICC ISSUES CALL FOR INDIAN UNITY

PA211923 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Joaquin (Suazo), general coordinator of the Miskito, Sumu, and Rama, Sandinist Unity Southern Indigenous Creole Communities [Misurasta Sicc], has issued a call to Indian combatants to join their efforts and thus coordinate the military actions of all the Indians who are fighting the Marxist government of Nicaragua. In addition, (Suazo) said that this unity will give a greater effectiveness to military actions and will represent a step toward the (?solution) of political differences caused by foreign and personal interests [words indistinct]. He added that the Indian peoples struggle for economic, social, and cultural rights is just and that it will not end until the Indian population is recognized as an Indian nation within Nicaragua.

EDEN PASTORA ON DISCUSSES UNITY DOCUMENT

PA230003 Panama City QUIUBO in Spanish 22-29 Mar 85 p 13

[By Lisette Carrasco; capitalized passages published in italics]

[Text] Last Sunday I received a telephone call from a man who identified himself as Eden Pastora.

HI TOVARICH, I AM PASTORA AND I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.

At first, I thought it was a "joke." But after hearing him call me TOVARICH -- companera -- I immediately knew that it was Commander Cero because in a previous interview he called me by that name. Still surprised by the call I asked: WHERE ARE YOU?

RIGHT NOW I AM CRUISING AROUND... (WHICH MEANT HE WAS IN A CAR). I HAD PLANNED TO LEAVE TODAY, BUT I WISH TO ANSWER ROBELO... (HE WAS REFERRING TO ROBELO'S [Alfonso Robelo] STATEMENT THAT PASTORA WAS AN ANTI-UNITY PERSON BECAUSE HE DID NOT SIGN THE UNITY DOCUMENT.)

Very well, where do we meet?

WHAT IF I CALL YOU AGAIN AT 1200 AND WE AGREE ON A PLACE, TOVARICH?

OK, call me at the newspaper.

WHAT IS THE PHONE NUMBER?

I gave him the numbers for the direct line and the switchboard, then we said good-bye and he hung up.

Shoot-out With Borge

I located Luis [Luis Jimenez], the photographer, and we returned to the newspaper to wait for the call. The call came at 1330. I asked Pastora to come to the newspaper; he refused. We agreed to meet at the Marriott Hotel. I headed for the hotel with my recorder, the radio I use to communicate with the newspaper, my notebook, and my photographer. Recalling the attack against Pastora a few months ago in Costa Rica during a press conference made me feel a bit nervous. Once at the Marriott Hotel, we waited for a few minutes until a small caravan arrived. Three fast cars. From the middle car, a cream Ford with smoked windows, a man, very easy to identify, emerged escorted by two robust men who, by their appearance, I identified as agents of the G-2 of the Defense Forces.

Pastora, wearing a pair of blue jeans [preceding words in English], a light blue shirt, and a black leather jacket greets us with a smile:

"LISETTE... HOW ARE YOU"?

Fine, what is happening with Robelo?

LISTEN LISETTE, I MUST RECALL SOME HISTORY.

We walked toward the lobby [preceding word in English] while Luis began taking photographs. Cero spoke in a low tone, almost as in secret.

"IN 1973 TOMAS BORGE AND I HAD A CONFRONTATION THAT ALMOST ENDED IN A SHOOT-OUT".

Why?

BECAUSE OF HOW RADICAL TOMAS IS.

Why didn't you shoot each other?

WELL, THE TRUTH IS THAT I DO NOT KNOW.

I told Pastora that I believe Tomas Borge and Daniel Ortega Saavedra are intelligent men and that they are struggling for a more just society.

LISETTE, THE ORTEGA SAAVEDRA BROTHERS ARE BEING INFLUENCED BY BORGE AND THE WHEELOCK ROMANS, WHO ARE THE MOST RADICAL OF THE NINE COMMANDERS.

Now, he seemed a bit bothered. He took off his leather jacket and paused. Then he brought his hand up to his head, arranged his hair, and continued:

"FOLLOWING THE TRIUMPH OF THE REVOLUTION, TOMAS BORGE AND I TALKED. HE TOLD ME: THE SALVADORAN COMPANEROS MUST BE HELPED. I TOLD HIM THAT THEY WERE WELL ORGANIZED AND THAT LITTLE-BY-LITTLE THEY COULD TRIUMPH. HOWEVER, HE RESPONDED; THEY MUST BE HELPED TO STRENGTHEN THE NORTH AND CREATE A SINGLE CIRCLE AGAINST THE YANKEES."

Pastora told us that he did not sign Robelo's document because the armed struggle must first be strengthened.

He went back to the topic of the Sandinists. I told him: Perhaps Borge was right. Just look at what is happening in the north. The Somozists are being supported by the Honduran Armed Forces and the United States, and it is said that they are building a circle to intervene in Nicaragua.

NO LISETTE...I DO NOT THINK THAT THAT IS WHAT THE GRINGOS PLAN. THEY MUST GIVE THE REAL SANDINISTS HELP SO THAT THEY CAN OVERTHROW THOSE MARXIST-LENINISTS WHO ARE IN MANAGUA ONCE AND FOR ALL.

Is this not an opportunist position?

WHAT IS HAPPENING IS THAT YOU ARE ONLY LOOKING AT ONE SIDE OF THE COIN, BUT ASK THE MARXISTS TO TAKE YOU TO THE SOUTH SO THAT YOU CAN SEE THE RED AND BLACK FLAG OF THE THOUSANDS OF PEASANTS WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN THEM AND WHO SUPPORT US.

Reports from Managua contradict this.

LISTEN TOVARICH, I AM TELLING YOU THE TRUTH AND, MOREOVER, IF YOU WISH YOU CAN COME WITH US TO WASHINGTON WHERE I AM GOING TO MEET WITH THE U.S. LIBERALS. ONCE YOUR ARE THERE, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO FIND OUT THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT THE STRUGGLE IN NICARAGUA.

One person accompanying Pastora interrupted us while Luis looked through his camera to catch the best expression of Commander Cero, who continues under the protective eye of the security agents.

When we renewed the conversation, I asked him for specific statements.

WELL...WAIT, BECAUSE I WILL BE SAYING IT ALL DURING THE NEWS CONFERENCE WE ARE PLANNING TO GIVE THIS AFTERNOON.

I reminded him that I want to interview his wife and that she had told me to "ask his permission."

THAT WAS A GOOD IDEA. WE BETTER LEAVE HER OUT OF ALL OF THIS.

There was a quick farewell, and he headed for his car and drove away quickly toward some area in the city.

At LA PRENSA

We saw each other again that afternoon during the press conference, after which we returned to the newspaper to process it. Suddenly, the phone rings.

WITH REPORTER LISETTE CARRASCO.

Speaking.

HOLD ON A MINUTE, SOMEONE WISHES TO SPEAK WITH YOU. (THERE IS A PAUSE.) HI. IT IS ME, PASTORA.

Oh, what a surprise!

I wish to say good-bye to you. Can I come by the newspaper?

Of course.

Shortly afterward, Cero enters the editorial office with Jose Davila and his two bodyguards. Smiling, he says:

I DID NOT TAKE TOO LONG, RIGHT?

Frankly no, I answered, and immediately introduced him to my coworkers. I introduced him to the LA PRENSA director, deputy director, and the head of the news department who explained to him how the newspaper operates, to which Pastora responds: HOW MARVELOUS!

Once the "tour" [preceding word in English] ended, we accompanied him out. He told me that the information I had written about him was "pretty objective," but he complained that I described him as an "opportunist."

He asked me for a copy of QUIUBO because he wants to read Spadafora's [Hugo Spadafora] interview. While he leafed through the paper, I asked him whether Spadafora ever fought or, as many say, was he just the cook.

YES, HE FOUGHT...BUT FOR THE PAST 2 YEARS I KNOW NOTHING OF HIM.

Luis did not stop taking photographs until Pastora entered the car. Once inside the car, he told me that when he returns from Washington in 15 days, "and before he heads for the mountains," we will sit down and talk "about his revolution." Once again he invites me to accompany him to Washington where he will meet with U.S. liberals.

I gave him a big NO and he told me to "think about it, thing about it." When I said NO again because I would like to go with Daniel Ortega, he smiled and waved a good-bye that served as a sign for the cars to quickly drive away.

BRIEFS

NEW RADIO SANDINO DIRECTOR -- Rodolfo Tapia Molina has been appointed director of Radio Sandino, replacing Jesus Miguel Blandon. Tapia Molina assumed office last night. Tapia Molina's appointment came as a surprise because Blandon, who has directed that radio station for the past 5 years, had not resigned from the office. [Summary] [Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Mar 85 PA]

GDR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE -- Since July 1979 the GDR has donated to Nicaragua over 60,000 tons of medicine, medical equipment, mobile clinics, mattresses, and tents. In addition, over 300 persons injured by the imperialist aggression have received medical care in GDR hospitals. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 85 PA]

RADIO, TV INSTITUTE DIRECTOR REPORTEDLY REPLACED

PA260135 Paris AFP in Spanish 0058 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Havana, 25 Mar (AFP) -- The removal of Nivaldo Herrera from his position as president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television [ICRT] and his replacement by Ismael Gonzalez, former student leader and currently a colleague of Cuban President Fidel Castro, was officially announced this afternoon. The announcement stated that Herrera "will now fulfill other duties." The ousted official had been the president of the very important ICRT, which has controlled Cuban television and radio for the past 10 years, and had faced constant official and popular criticism.

The announcement added that Gonzalez was a former leader of the Federation of University Students and the Union of Young Communists and is currently a member of the coordination and support group of the presidency of the State Council, advisory staff, and assistants directed by Castro.

HART LEADS DELEGATION TO HUNGARIAN CONGRESS

FL231320 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] A high-level delegation from the Cuban Communist Party has left for Budapest to attend the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party's 13th Congress which will begin on Monday. The Cuban delegation is headed by Armando Hart Davalos, Politburo member of the party.

Meanwhile, reports from Budapest say that preparations for Hungary's national political summit have almost been completed. According to the local press, the congress will outline Hungary's economic and political guidelines for the next 5 years.

Stops Over in Berlin

FL231814 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Armando Hart Davalos, Politburo member of Cuba's Communist Party, arrived today in Berlin on a stopover on his way to Budapest, where he will attend the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party's 13th Congress.

Hart is heading the delegation, which will attend this party event, which also includes Rafael Polanco, first deputy chief of the party's general department of foreign relations. Hart and Planco will travel tomorrow, Sunday, to the Hungarian capital.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH SWEDEN EXTENDED

FL220126 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Today the Governments of Cuba and Sweden signed a note extending the trade agreement between the two countries. Ambassador Jan Stahl and Vice Minister of Culture in the Ministry of Foreign Relations Humberto Castello described as mutually satisfactory the continuation of the existing trade relations between the two countries.

CEMA REPRESENTATIVES MEETING CONCLUDES

FL221432 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1102 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] The fourth CEMA representatives meeting on the complex "Problem No 10: Preparations, Doctors, and Monobiology" has ended with the signing of an accord. [sentence as heard]

It has been meeting since Tuesday, grouping together representatives from the Soviet Union, the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, and Cuba, and Vietnam as a visiting observer.

COMMENTARY ON STATUS OF U.S. CARIBBEAN INITIATIVE

PA160321 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 13 Mar 85

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] A few years ago the U.S. Government promoted the so-called Caribbean Basin Initiative, a deceptive economic assistance plan, aimed -- according to its promoter, President Ronald Reagan -- at reactivating the productive and commercial sources of the Caribbean countries. The initiative included giving the countries of the area approximately $300 million in exchange for better tariffs and investments for U.S. capital and products. The Caribbean Basin Initiative was presented by the United States as a way of helping to resolve the pressing socioeconomic problems of the area and show the world Washington's alleged desire to cooperate with the poor nations' socio-economic development.

But the U.S. initiative was never more than just that, a mere initiative. In practice, very few dollars found their way to the empty treasuries of the Caribbean countries and what little money was received was used to pay a very small portion of their foreign debts. The bubble launched by Washington burst before it could expand.

Since then the Caribbean nations have begun to take steps in directions other than those suggested by the United States. Instead of promoting their trade with the United States, the Caribbean leaders are trying to reactivate bilateral trade without taking the White House's promises and the possibilities of the Caribbean Common Market, known as Caricom, too seriously. This organization for economic cooperation is currently bankrupt and the agreements of the last meeting of Caricom heads of state held approximately 8 months ago in Nassau, have not been fulfilled because of the growing deterioration of the economies of the countries of the Caribbean. Unfortunately, the Caricom leaders have not adopted an active and realistic view of the development of region, but rather, accuse each other of causing the problems in the functioning of this organization. But the truth is that neither Caricom nor U.S. promises of financial aid have been able to reverse the stagnation being experienced by the deteriorating economies of the countries of the area. This is why, to counteract the situation, the Caribbean governments have to promote bilateral trade agreements aimed at giving their respective economies a boost.

Barbados negotiated trade agreements with Guyana and Trinidad. Barbados also asked the Guyanese Government to begin a stable trade exchange which the Georgetown authorities would like to see materialized in joint enterprises.

Meanwhile, Dominica and Trinidad and Tobago have talked about the possibility of increasing their bilateral trade and the opening of new exchange areas.

The smaller states in the eastern Caribbean, which have always accused the larger islands of trade discrimination, are also carrying out negotiations to increase trade. In this regard, St Lucia has begun talks with its northern and southern neighbors, Dominica and St Vincent, in a quest to find a reasonable formula that will promote cooperation and lessen the economic crisis. Efforts being made by Caricom states express the alarm felt by the local leaders in face of the rapid economic deterioration experienced by the 13 members of that Caribbean organization.

Caricom or Caribbean Common Market is also becoming aware that its economic survival is not the United States main concern and that only cooperation among the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean community appears as an immediate alternative at a time when the international crisis and the low prices of raw materials burden all the countries of the area.

COMMENTARY ON GEORGE BUSH'S VISIT TO GRENADA

FL221246 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush's brief stay in Grenada served to display the arrogant manner with which the White House continues to direct the island's internal affairs.

Bush gave one to understand that the United States would continue to exercise tight control over defense and local public order to avoid eruptions of opposition to Prime Minister Herbert Blaize.

Some 300 Yankee soldiers continue to occupy Grenada since the 25 October 1983 invasion, but according to reports from the island, they will return to their country this year.

Nevertheless, the Grenadian Government has just asked Bush to extend the Yankee soldiers stay for at least 2 more years, in spite of the fact that the island already has a police force made up of carefully selected persons who will be in charge of harassing the opposition.

If, as it is known, Grenada is under the control of the security apparatus of the CIA and Yankee personnel disguised as civilian advisers, why is Prime Minister Herbert Blaize asking the U.S. occupiers to stay? During his recent visit to Grenada, Vice President Bush stated: I assure you that we will not leave you unprotected. So why this attitude by the island's authorities?

Some analysts have asked themselves if all these public petitions for the U.S. people to stay is not part of a drama for presenting the White House as designing a return, to then later find itself forced to accept the Grenadian Government's petitions.

The island's chaotic economic and social situation and the masses increasing belief that Grenada is an occupied nation point to serious problems for Blaize. Perhaps these are the real motives behind wanting to be protected by the U.S. soldiers who are undoubtedly better trained.

1984 CONSTRUCTION GOALS FULFILLED BY 97 PERCENT

FL151641 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] The Construction Ministry built projects worth over 1.8 billion pesos last year. This accounts for 97 percent of the planned goals, and was 114 percent compared to the goals fulfilled in 1983. This was announced at the 1984 Construction Ministry work assessment meeting held in Havana. Jaime Crombet, Secretariat member, made the concluding remarks. Crombet said the work should be performed to guarantee the fulfillment of this year's construction and assembly plan, both in cost and quantity.

The Secretariat member said that established priorities should be rigorously observed and, with it, the delivery of resources which will set in motion 116 new industrial projects and the partial completion of over 30 others.

CARICOM SECRETARY ON ORGANIZATION'S PROBLEMS

FL1252031 Bridgetown CANA in English 1904 GMT 25 Mar 85

[By Peter Richards]

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, March 25, CANA -- Caribbean Community (Caricom) Secretary General Roderick Rainford has expressed concern about the continuing decline in trade in the 13-nation community, but admits there is scope for reversing the trend. Rainford today held talks with Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles and Trade Minister Charles Savarin and the nagging problem of declining regional trade was highlighted. From the Caricom perspective as a whole, I think there is continuing cause for concern about the trends in trade within the region, Rainford said.

Caricom secretariat officials say trade in the community has been on the decline since 1982, partly due to barriers some countries have erected with a view to saving foreign exchange. Rainford said January-September 1984 trading in the community was down by more than 80 million EEC dollars (one EEC dollar: 37 cents U.S.) against trading for the corresponding period in 1983.

The problem and challenge we have to face in the region as a whole, is the question of the necessary steps to reverse the trend, he remarked. With the right kind of spirit, the right kind of measures and approach, we should be able to contain the situation within the region as far as intra-regional trade is concerned, he added.

Caricom leaders agreed when they met in the Bahamas last year to take steps to revitalize intra-regional trade. But Rainford said: There is evidence to suggest that the decline had continued in 1984 and the implementation of the measures agreed in Nassau are going to be of very critical importance in helping them turn the situation around in 1985.

Rainford said that the next meeting of the Caricom Council of Ministers, which will probably be held in mid-April, will be very crucial to the region in terms of the Nassau measures. He added: It is going to be very important for reversing the negative trend in intra-regional trade. He said: Achieving a reversal would require the full political commitment of Caricom member states, the very careful identification of the opportunities that are there, and the full exploitation of those opportunities. He saw bilateral trading agreements among member states as a useful means of getting back to fully effective multilateral trading regimes.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

BARBUDA'S ONR WINS LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

FL252019 Bridgetown CANA in English 1823 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, March 25, CANA -- The Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) has won local government elections in Barbuda, supervisor of elections, Keith Hill, has announced here. Hill said all five candidates of the ONR were elected Saturday to sit on the local government council for a two-year term, giving the new political grouping control. The other four members of the council will face re-election next year.

The successful candidates are Senator Arthur Nibbs who polled the highest individual number of votes, George James, Peter Frank, Calvin Gore and David Shaw. The losing five candidates represented the Barbuda People's Movement (BPM), headed by Hilbourne Frank who was also the former chairman of the council. All the BPM candidates lost their deposits. A new chairman will be elected when the council holds its first meeting.

Hill said of the 652 registered voters in Barbuda, 475 took part in the elections, representing 72.9 per cent of the voters.

Upon its formation last year, the ONR pledged to work closely with the ruling Antigua Labour Party central government in St Johns to create a healthy industrial climate and alleviate unemployment of the 62-square-mile island.

Political sources said that Barbuda voters who have previously shown their dislike of the ALP administration may now be reassessing their attitude. The government has in recent times assisted in the setting up of a commercial bank, two hotels and a mini-shopping complex.

BARBADOS

HIGH COMMISSION IN GRENADA TO BE CLOSED

FL231624 Bridgetown CANA in English 1454 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 23, CANA -- Barbados plans to close its high commission in Grenada when that island's reconstruction effort is completed, Foreign Minister Louis Tull said. Tull told Parliament yesterday the Grenada Government was informed of the temporary nature of the diplomatic mission from its establishment shortly after the October 1983 U.S.-led invasion. Barbados participated in that operation which paved the way for Grenada's return to Western parliamentary democracy in general elections last December after four-and-a-half-years under Marxist rule. The high commission is headed by Walter Burke, a former permanent secretary in the Ministry of Education. Barbados has a few soldiers and policemen doing peacekeeping duties in Grenada with other regional and international colleagues, but these are expected to be withdrawn later this year.

GRENADA

MINISTER ON HOLDING INQUIRY INTO 1983 COUP

FL221610 Bridgetown CANA in English 1442 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 22,CANA -- Grenada's Legal Affairs Minister Ben Jones has said here that his three-month-old government is still committed to holding an inquiry into the bloody October 1983 Army coup. During the coup, leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, half his cabinet colleagues, and an estimated 110 others were killed when radicals toppled moderates within the then ruling New Jewel Movement. Jones said the government has not been able to make much progress in setting up a commission of inquiry because there were many other urgent priorities. We believe that bearing in mind all the other things that need attention that one (the commission on inquiry) would have to wait a little while, he told CANA. Among the matters Jones indicated which are of much importance to the government is the review of the 1973 Grenada Constitution by a five-member commission to recommend changes giving more power to the people, and the setting up of an industrial development corporation. These things are in our view much more urgent, but I have no doubt that we would be looking at the commission of inquiry shortly.

Asked whether he expected the government to set up the commission after the trial of 19 former military and political officials charged in connection with the slaying of Bishop, Jones said: We would do nothing, not even set up the commission, if it is going to interfere with the trial.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER MEETS WITH OAS'S SOARES

FL221606 Bridgetown CANA in English 2251 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Washington, March 21, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago's newly appointed Minister of External Affairs Errol Mahabir today met with Organisation of American States (OAS) Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Soares and OAS Assistant Secretary General Val T. McComie.

Mahabir said he discussed with Baena Soares the general activities of the OAS, its possible restructuring, and the budgetary situation of the regional organisation.

Mahabir is in the United States to meet with officials of the U.S. Government and representatives of international organisations here and in New York.

This morning he met with congressional aides of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, and Ambassador William Brock, the special U.S. trade representative who was recently named secretary of labor by President Ronald Reagan.

Mahabir said he expects to meet with Assistant Secretary of State Kenneth Dam, the president of the World Bank A.W. Clausen, and U.S. business leaders tomorrow. While in New York, he held meetings with the Secretary General of the United Nations Javier Perez de Cuellar, and members ot the U.S. Security Council.

In reference to President Reagan's Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) -- the multi-million dollar trade, aid, investment, and tourism package -- the minister said that we have not as yet benefitted fully to any great extent, but we are taking steps to benefit from it.

Mahabir said that his country's trade relations with Caribbean Community (Caricom) members are under review at the present time. He said that Trinidad and Tobago intends to raise certain issues at the forthcoming meeting of Caricom ministers to be held in Georgetown, Guyana as a first step towards re-establishing intra-regional trade at the levels to which we are all accustomed.

Mahabir was accompanied during his visit with Baena Soares by Trinidad and Tobago's ambassador to the OAS, James O'Neil Lewis, and other members of his country's delegation to the hemispheric body.

FOREIGN MINISTER 'SATISFIED' WITH UN ENVOY TALKS

PA251702 Paris AFP in Spanish 0141 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 24 Mar (AFP) -- Guyanese Foreign Relations Minister Rashleigh Esmond Jackson said today that Guyanese President Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham and the Guyanese Government are completely satisfied with last week's personal meetings in Georgetown with Diego Cordovez on ways to solve the border dispute between Venezuela and Guyana. The foreign minister was commenting on Diego Cordovez' statement that United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar will now understand more fully the mission that has been entrusted to him.

According to reports from diplomatic sources here, Diego Cordovez was also pleased with his high-level meetings in Venezuela. However, the sources were admittedly unable to gauge the Venezuelan Government's level of satisfaction over the meetings.

Cordovez, who is Javier Perez de Cuellar's special envoy, is representing the UN secretary general on this mission, which is seeking to find a solution to the border dispute under the terms of the 1965 Geneva agreement. Official sources stated that the Guyanese and Venezuelan Governments are eager to find the means that would expedite a solution to the border dispute.

BILATERAL TRADE ACCORD EXTENDED WITH BULGARIA

FL231622 Bridgetown CANA in English 1825 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 22, CANA -- Guyana is looking forward to an expansion of trade with Bulgaria following discussions here this week which ended with both sides deciding on a one year extension of a bilateral trade protocol, a government spokesman said today. The agreement entails the exchange of Guyana's bauxite and other products from the traditional as well as non-traditional sectors for pharmaceuticals and industrial inputs, he said.

Guyana is also likely to participate in a trade fair in the Communist eastern European state next month as part of efforts to improve trade relations.

The Bulgarian team left for home last night.

Bulgaria has already agreed to provide Guyana with two 10-kilowatt radio transmitters and two 100-kilowatt transmitters in exchange for local bauxite. The equipment is for the state-owned Guyana Broadcasting Coroporation, operators of the National Radio Service.

Over the past year, Guyana has been forging closer ties with the Communist bloc, signing arrangements with North Korea, Romania, and Cuba.

WCC CONCERNED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

FL230212 Bridgetown CANA in English 2055 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 22, CANA -- The World Council of Churches (WCC) has sent a cable to President Forbes Burnham expressing concern about the human rights situation in Guyana. The cable follows the disruption by unruly demonstrators of the annual general meeting of the Guyana Council of Churches (GCC) following a publication of a CCC working document severely critical of the Burnham administration. The GCC blamed government agents and police laxity for the failure of the meeting to start.

The cable reads: WCC learnt with dismay of the disruption and prevention of the annual general meeting of the Guyana Council of Churches which was scheduled to be held on Tuesday March 12, 1985. We are deeply concerned with the general situation on human rights in Guyana. We call upon you to ensure full freedom to hold religious meetings. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the people, the churches, and the Government of Guyana.

The government has deemed the document, prepared by GCC staff members, as a political one, aimed at bringing the regime down, and accused the churches of being one-sided. The GCC responded that the document did not reflect official views but was a working document intended for circulation to member churches. Since the documents surfaced, two small member churches, the A.M.E. Church and the Guyana Missionary Baptist Church, have disassociated themselves from it. There are 15 members of the council.

IAPA SENDS PROTEST MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT

FL231630 Bridgetown CANA in English 1532 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Miami, March 23, CANA -- The Inter-American Press Association (IAPA) has sent a message to Guyana President Forbes Burnham calling for an end to what it says is official harassment of the CATHOLIC STANDARD newspaper, organ of the Roman Catholic Church there and a frequent critic of the government. The message from IAPA President Maximo Gainza, editor and publisher of the Argentina paper LA PRENSA, cited the text of a resolution passed by the association's board of directors at its meeting in Panama last week, expressing solidarity with the STANDARD and its editor, Andrew Morrison. IAPA noted that the STANDARD, dependent on the government for its newsprint -- the Burnham administration is the sole importer -- had lost one libel suit so far brought against it by the Guyana president and faces several more in the continued harassment being carried out by the Burnham government. In 1983 Father Morrison was winner of an IAPA freedom of the press award for his paper's independent stand against the Burnham government.

WPA WANTS COOPERATIVES RULED UNCONSTITUTIONAL

FL230222 Bridgetown CANA in English 2142 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 22, CANA -- Three leading members of the left-wing Working Peoples Alliance (WPA) have filed a writ in the Guyana High Court seeking to have government's proposed people's cooperatives units declared unconstitutional. Plans to set up the units in three districts were announced early last year in a move government said was to forge a better understanding between citizens and government. The units are to be given responsibility for certain functions, including distribution of essential food items. The opposition has changed that they will be used for political purposes by the ruling People's National Congress. The writ, filed by Eusi Kwayana, Rupert Roopnarine, and Karen Desouza, said setting up the units is not in accordance with the Local Democratic Organs Act of 1980. The writ has been filed against National Mobilization Minister Robert Corbin and Attorney General Dr Mohamed Shahabuddeen. The three areas which the WPA is attempting to have removed from the proposed units are Buxton, 12 miles east of the capital, Georgetown, and two wards here, Queenstown and Stabroek. The WPA is seeking a declaration that the said people's cooperative units are unconstitutional and are not qualified or entitled to carry out or purport to carry out any functions or assignments under the Local Organs Act of 1980, and that all acts by or in the names of the said people's cooperative units since their establishment are void. Lawyer Moses Bhagwan is counsel for the WPA officers.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

COLOMBIA TO FINANCE PURCHASE OF COAL

FL201420 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 7 Mar 85 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] Bogota -- Colombia will finance the purchase of 300,000 tons of coal annually by the Dominican Republic over a period of 3 years amounting to around $40 million, which will be used to operate two thermoelectric plants presently consuming 15 percent of the Dominican Electric Corporation's oil imports.

PARAGUAY

POLICE ARREST, RELEASE PATRIA JOURNALIST

PY250227 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 24 Mar 85 p 7

[Text] We support and applaud the moralization campaign under implementation by the Asuncion police in an effort to eradicate crime, drug addiction, and homosexuality from our country. An action of this kind obviously deserves the support and cooperation of all the people, because it is aimed at preserving tranquillity and the moral values of society. However, the police control should at no time turn into arbitrariness and mistreatment, because such behavior would be inconsistent with the noble purpose of the campaign and would awaken the reaction, naturally justified, of the victims. We are alluding to this situation because an employee of this newspaper suffered an arbitrary arrest at police Station No 18 on the evening of 22 March. He was under arrest for several hours even after showing his identification card and his PATRIA press card to the policemen on duty at the corner of Ana Diaz and Peru streets. He is not a criminal, and much less a homosexual or a drug addict. If he was arrested by mistake, heavy-handedness, or abuse by the policemen involved in this arbitrary action, we expect the superior police authorities to take the necessary measures to prevent the repetition of actions of this sort, which tarnish the prestigious police institution. The professionalism and efficiency of the police in the maintenance of order and peace are truly noteworthy. These qualifications have been acquired under the wise orientation and bright leadership of Major General Don Francisco Alcibiades Britez, the police chief, who has always been known as an honorable and upright man.

SURINAME

NETHERLANDS DENIES VISA TO EDUCATION MINISTER

PM211147 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 16 Mar 85 p 1

[ANP report: "Surinamese Minister Denied Visa"]

[Text] Paramaribo, 16 Mar -- The Netherlands has denied a visa to Surinamese Education and Sciences Minister Dr A. Li Fo Sjoe, because he still has study debts in the Netherlands. This was stated in an official announcement made public in Paramaribo yesterday. Minister Li Fo Sjoe wanted to travel via the Netherlands to Paris to attend a meeting of UNESCO. He was also planning to hold some talks with Surinamers. Surinamese Prime Minister Wim Udenhout views the visa denial as "not unconnected with the systematic attempts by The Hague at isolate Suriname diplomatically and economically."

Udenhout invited the Netherlands Ambassador in Paramaribo, D. J. Van Houten to discuss the matter. He told the ambassador that he considers it "immoral" for the Netherlands to demand debt repayments from Surinamese citizens, while the Netherlands through its refusal "to meet its commitments to the whole of Surinamese society is systematically trying to plunge Suriname into economic nad social chaos."